

## Army alert as fuel strike nears

Troops have been put on alert to go into oil refineries and depots if the tanker drivers decide to strike from Monday. A state of emergency would be declared. Oil company executives have expressed alarm at what they see as a manifestation of the drivers' voting figures by The Transport and General Workers' Union. Page 2

## Anglo-Irish pact under attack

The agreement on an Anglo-Irish council was attacked when the Irish and British Prime Ministers reported to their MPs. The Rev Ian Paisley, Democratic Unionist leader, walked out of the Commons shouting that Mrs Thatcher was a traitor. In the Daily Mail, the pact was described as a betrayal. Mr. Garret FitzGerald was deplored by his predecessor, Mr. Charles Haughey. Pages 2, 4

## New threat to cricket tour

A new threat to England's cricket tour of India emerged yesterday when a High Court judge in Bangalore, the venue for the second Test match, was asked to revoke the entry visas of Boycott and Cook because of their sporting links with South Africa. The writ was demanded by the Civil Rights Vigilance Group of Bangalore.

## Foot attempts to unite factions

Mr Michael Foot, in an attempt to unite the warring factions inside the Labour Party, has appointed Mr Wedgwood Benn and Mr Denis Healey to front bench positions. He also said he wanted to deal effectively with inflation by the Militant Tendency. Page 3

## Jurors asked about race

Seventy potential jurors at the Central Criminal Court were asked if they supported the right to a fair trial or if they supported the right to a jury. A jury was selected to try four West Indians on charges connected with the death of a white man. Page 6

## Oil groups seek price cut

Shell, BP, Esso and other oil companies are pressing the British National Oil Corporation to think again on its recent price increases, which took the Forties Field crude price to \$36.50 a barrel at a time of declining world demand. Page 15

## Autonomy talks resume in Cairo

The fundamental question of the control of water resources in the occupied West Bank will be excluded from the talks on Palestinian autonomy which resume in Cairo today. Both sides have decided to postpone discussion of this most divisive issue in an effort to break the 17-month deadlock in the autonomy talks. Page 8

## Landslide for Trinidad party

The People's National Movement, which had been in power for a quarter of a century, won a landslide victory in the 1981 election in Trinidad and Tobago general election. It crushed what had been regarded as the toughest electoral challenge it had yet faced. Page 8

## Karpov a game from victory

Viktor Korchin, challenging Anatoly Karpov for the world chess championship in Merano, yesterday resigned the fourteenth game on the forty-sixth move. Karpov now leads the series 5-2, and needs one more win to retain the title. Page 8

## McEnroe keeps fans waiting

John McEnroe refused to play, as scheduled, on the first day of the Benson and Hedges tennis tournament which began at Wimbledon. However, he was described as "the innocent party" by the tournament director who had reorganised the programme. Page 21

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## BL tea break strike given backing by Duffy

By Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent

The uneasy peace that has prevailed in the car industry since Sir Michael Edwards' victory over the unions last week was shattered yesterday when a dispute over tea breaks erupted into a strike at the big Longbridge car plant in Birmingham. The strike was immediately given official support by Mr Terence Duffy's Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

In a show of militancy that took management and other unions by complete surprise, Mr Duffy also served warning on Ford that if shopfloor opposition to the company's offer of a 4.5 per cent pay rise turned into an all-out strike threat, the AUEW would give that official support also.

It was the speed of his intervention in the latest BL strike that provided the biggest shock. The strike by 1,800 workers on the Metro and Mini day and night assembly track was only 24 hours old and, until his intervention, had involved relatively few members of the union. By last night production of the two cars was at a standstill with a further 4,500 workers laid off. The company said that thousands more will be sent home if the strike continues even a few days.

Tempers already on short fuse exploded when the Longbridge management tried to implement an 11-minute cut in the time allowed for daily tea breaks, from a total of 51 minutes to 40. It took that unilateral action after the breakdown of talks with the unions on the introduction of the 39-hour week agreed between the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions and the Engineering Employers' Federation. BL has withdrawn from the federation, but has said it will honour the deal.

Announcing official backing for AUEW members on strike at Longbridge, Mr Duffy said: "We are not going to tolerate any company, including BL, trying to impose a 39-hour week on any company abolishing the tea break to make up time after conceding the 39-hour week."

The Transport and General Workers' Union, which represents 55 per cent of BL's manual workers and the bulk of those taking part in the present strike, has not even considered making the strike official at this stage. Mr Brian Mathers, the union's senior Midlands official, said: "There has been no approach for official backing. It is not in our interests to be sympathetically considered."

BL met its joint union nego-

## The cost of a wife is £204 a week

By Lorna Bourke

The commercial rate for a housewife's work is now £204 a week, equivalent to the salary of an Army sergeant major, a bishop, or a fire chief, a recent survey conducted for the insurers, Legal & General, says.

Even costing a wife's time out at £204 a week, or £10,600 a year, her work is still valued at not much more than £2 an hour, the absolute minimum paid for domestic help. This is for a seven-day-a-week job and 12 to 14 hours a day.

Dumies priced by Legal & General include cooking, child minding, waitressing, dishwashing, driving, shopping, cleaning, laundering, sewing, and other activities all based on employment agencies' average fees for different jobs.

Inflation has taken its toll. A similar survey conducted for the company in 1975 costed out a woman's time at £71 a week. Although the statistics provoked considerable controversy at the time, there is little evidence to suggest that families took the lesson to heart and insular the wife's life.

A chart compiled by Gallup, which conducted the survey, shows that the housewife is fully employed for seven days a week. Her potential earnings reached a peak of £35.86 on a Thursday, when she works only six and a half hours with an earnings potential of £13.

Of the married couples surveyed, a surprisingly large proportion of husbands did not see their wives as doing financial problems. It was only when the survey was broken down by age that this would not be much of a problem or no problem at all, and 12 per cent admitted they did not know.

The survey is designed to highlight the potentially disastrous effects on the husband's finances if the wife should die, obliging the husband to hire domestic help as a replacement.

Mr Kenneth Livingstone, leader of the GLC, who personally instituted the "Pares Fair" policy, said that he was confident the decision would be reversed in the House of Lords. "We are in the middle of a three-round fight. It is who wins the final that matters," he said.

Pending the appeal, Kely to be heard in the Lords as a matter of urgency within the next fortnight, London Transport's financial remains unchanged, though technically illegal. London Transport told the court it would take up to 14 weeks to make the administrative arrangements to alter fares.

The Court of Appeal decision, based on the Transport Act 1969, has no immediate implications for subsidised transport systems in other parts of the country. It does raise the possibility



## Woman to lead fight against Métro crime

Mlle Nadine Joly, aged 29 (above), has been chosen to head a new 450-strong police force that will keep order on the Métro (our Paris Correspondent writes).

M Jean Perier, the Prefect of the Paris police, made the appointment, with effect from the beginning of this month. Mlle Joly has already served

five years as a police inspector. She was born in Courmas, in the Marne department.

The increase in assaults and hooliganism on the Paris Métro prompted the Prefect of Police to reinforce the existing anti-gang police on patrol in the stations, corridors and trains.

In 1980, 893 attacks on Métro users were recorded in Paris. The Prefect decided to step up security measures and Mlle Joly is now in charge of 286 "underground" policemen and two squadrons of mobile police. In all, she has about 450 under her orders. She directs her brigade from a desk at police headquarters, with the help of a detailed map of the Métro.

## GLC faces chaos as Denning rules rates levy is illegal

By Robin Young

A unanimous decision by Lord Denning and two other judges in the Court of Appeal yesterday quashed the Greater London Council's supplementary rate precept which was to have financed the cheaper fares introduced last month on London Transport buses and Tubes.

The precept was to have raised £173m. Mr Kenneth Livingstone, leader of the GLC, who personally instituted the "Pares Fair" policy, said that he was confident the decision would be reversed in the House of Lords.

"We are in the middle of a three-round fight. It is who wins the final that matters," he said. Pending the appeal, Kely to be heard in the Lords as a matter of urgency within the next fortnight, London Transport's financial remains unchanged, though technically illegal. London Transport told the court it would take up to 14 weeks to make the administrative arrangements to alter fares.

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to do about it, but it is their own fault. They must unscramble the mess as best they can. They cannot burden the rate payers of London with this supplementary precept."

Mr Livingstone and the Labour group had disregarded pleas by council officers that the rate payers should be considered, and had decided to proceed, although their calculations of the cost had been falsified by the loss of block grant revenue from the Government.

"They decided to press on regardless of the penal blow it would inflict on the rate payers," Lord Denning said. The GLC had also failed to follow statutory procedure, issuing no written directive to London Transport to revise its fares and not consulting with county councils whose areas were served by London Transport.

The Labour group were under complete misapprehension in regarding themselves as having a mandate, and as being committed by their manifesto.

"A political manifesto is not to be regarded as gospel. It is a guide, they often contain promises and proposals that are not intended to be carried out."

Continued on back page, col 6

## Heseltine firm on referendum

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, gave a warning to Conservative backbenchers no hint last night that the Government will give way to their pressure and weaken its proposal to compel local authorities to hold referendums before levying rates above a Government fixed ceiling.

Called to explain his plans to the backbench environment committee Mr Heseltine, after speaking and answering questions for more than an hour and a half, gave the impression that the Cabinet has decided to make no concessions in the hope that opposition from inside Conservative ranks will fade away.

This may be mistaken. Mr Reginald Prentice, MP for Darnley, and Mr Alan Haselhurst, MP for Saffron Walden, added their voices yesterday to those who mean to oppose the Local Government Finance Bill when it comes up for second reading.

Mr Prentice, a former minister, said in a letter to his local party: "I feel bound to oppose

Continued on back page, col 3

## Howe 'tax' changes to fall on better off

By David Blake, Economics Editor

The Government is likely to announce higher national insurance contributions before the end of the month. This could bear particularly heavily on the higher-paid by raising the upper threshold on which the contribution is levied. At present, National Insurance contributions are only paid on the first £200 a week of earnings, with £27 of that being exempt.

The statement could well be separated from other Government announcements on the economy. There is no prospect of a decision on British membership of the European Monetary System until well into next year, probably at Budget time.

The Government is also making such slow progress in deciding public spending plans for next year that it will probably have to postpone an announcement of its forecasts for the economy until December, breaking a tradition that this is published in November.

The Chancellor will probably be questioned by members of the Commons Treasury Select Committee on the progress the Government is making in drawing up an autumn statement on the economy when he appears before them next Monday. But suggestions that there might be a major autumn statement which would effectively rewrite the Government's medium-term financial strategy and take Britain into the European Monetary System are now effectively ruled out.

The delay over a decision about joining EMS is caused partly because of difficulties over the rate at which the pound would go in and partly because there are still doubts about whether this is the best way to aim for greater exchange rate stability.

Any decision may well have to wait until a new version of

And that doesn't include my fee for listening to your financial problems.

The Gallup survey commissioned by Legal & General showed that most husbands claimed to appreciate the financial value of their wives' housework, but only one husband in four had insured his wife's life.

On average, six wives in every thousand will die before their husbands reach retirement age, and a General Insurance cover is not designed to cover the full cost of employing a housekeeper, but to provide the financial assistance enabling the husband to carry a work while he makes alternative arrangements.

Female employees who lose a husband will be similarly entitled to benefits under the scheme, known as Caring and Caring. The company admit that the best answer would be for individuals to make their own arrangements, because cover will cease when an employee leaves his employer.

Femaleists were not impressed with the estimate of £10,600 a year (Lynne Rodgers writes). Mrs Ann Sedley, women's rights officer of the National Council for Civil Liberties, said this was a very low price to pay for the kind of work women do at home. "I would think this is a low estimate for housewife insurance," she said.

The survey was useful to the extent that it highlighted the work done by women at home, but the concept of a housewife was rather outdated, she said.

A WIFE'S WORTH

Time	Activity	Cost per hr (£)
7.30-8.30	Cook	1.94
8.30-9.30	Waitress	1.23
9.30-10.30	Dishwasher	1.23
10.30-11.30	Driver	1.23
11.30-12.30	Shopper	1.85
12.30-1.30	Cleaner	1.85
1.30-2.30	Laundress	1.92
2.30-3.30	Post Laurence	1.92
3.30-4.30	Cost Clerk	2.23
4.30-5.30	Cleaner	1.92
5.30-6.30	Cleaner	0.88
6.30-7.30	Driver	1.23
7.30-8.30	Childminder	1.72
8.30-9.30	Childminder	1.72
9.30-10.30	Cook	1.92
10.30-11.30	Childminder	1.72
11.30-12.30	Waitress	1.23
12.30-1.30	Dishwasher	1.23
1.30-2.30	Seamstress	1.85
	Daily Total	57.67

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# Troops on alert as tanker men's strike draws near

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

Oil company executives last night expressed alarm at what they saw as manipulation of voting figures by the Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU) in the threatened tanker drivers' strike.

Troops have been put on alert to go into refineries and depots once a state of emergency is declared.

The strike is due to start on Monday and a state of emergency would be declared by the Government within a matter of hours. Troops are understood to be undergoing final training at a camp in Dorset in preparation for the requisitioning of tankers from the oil companies to ensure that essential supplies are maintained.

As controversy raged over Monday's decision by the TGWU senior shop stewards to declare invalid votes by 2,000 BP oil distribution workers, oil companies viewed "with suspicion" the consultation process adopted by the union on whether to strike or accept the 8 per cent pay offer from the four main oil companies.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher is said to be taking a close interest in the union's voting mechanism and is drawing parallels with the union's voting on the election for the deputy leader of the Labour Party at the party conference in September.

Army preparations for the threatened strike are being drawn up at the West Moors petroleum depot in Dorset,

where up to 10,000 troops are being trained in the use of pumps and piping. The Cabinet is expected to be briefed tomorrow on the strike preparations, which are conducted through the Civil Contingencies Unit.

It is thought that the BP workers may have voted in favour of acceptance of the company's offer, which would increase average weekly earnings by tanker drivers to more than £200 a week, but the decision by the TGWU shop stewards to declare the vote invalid was strongly criticized yesterday.

The stewards decided that the 2,000 workers did not have sufficient information before they voted, but Texaco, whose stewards decide on Friday whether to support the strike call, said last night that the union's consultation process was "suspect".

Texaco said: "We are in the dark. We have no right to demand to know how the union is carrying out the voting, but we are suspicious of how it is being handled."

Workers in the four companies are said by the union to have voted on the 8 per cent offer at meetings at terminals and depots but Shell managers said last night it had no knowledge of formal meetings taking place in its depots to discuss the offer.

The only possible way it could have happened is inform-

ally over a cup of tea in the canteen," the company said.

Mr Alex Kitson, acting general secretary of the union, was reluctant to discuss the threatened strike when he left the union's Westminster headquarters last night. He denied that there was a split in the union over the dispute but he refused to discuss the BP vote.

Mr Kitson, who has been reported as saying that he hoped to force the Government into a "U-turn economically" by a tanker drivers' strike, also refused to say whether he had ultimate responsibility for the dispute or whether it had passed to Mr Mostyn Evans, the union's general secretary, who has been absent because of illness.

The all companies are clearly anxious about the union's voting procedures.

Shell senior stewards meet today to decide whether to endorse the strike call by a TGWU delegate meeting last month. Esso stewards are due to meet tomorrow and the Texaco stewards' conference will be on Friday.

The BP stewards are also due to meet on Friday to review the decision of the union's delegates ordered by the stewards on Monday. The new meetings will be asked specifically to vote on the strike call and it will be made clear that a vote to reject the call will mean that the offer is accepted.

# Where demolition will come as a relief



The grim flats facing demolition after only 10 years' use.

In two weeks Manchester City Council will decide if a large housing estate of more than 1,000 homes in the south-east of the city should be demolished only 10 years after the houses were built.

Judging from the likely recommendations of architects and the housing committee, the council will have little choice but to admit that Fort Beswick Estate, once dubbed the "highways in the sky", was a planning and building disaster and should make way for traditional two-storey brick council houses. The homes were built between 1969 and 1973.

The feeling on the estate and among some councillors is that the bulldozers cannot move in quickly enough. Ever since the homes were built in unit form in factories and bolted together on the site there have been complaints of damp, vermin, cracks, isolation, and crime.

The present plan for demolition of an estate built to last 60 years should be an embarrassment, but it has to be seen in the context of a time in which architects were serving, not moving away from the disastrous high-rise tower blocks. Instead, they opted equally unfortunately as it has turned out, for the medium-rise building of up to seven storeys and linked the blocks by walkways or "decks".

That seemed a bright idea at the time, but the three miles of walkway in Fort Beswick, which allow a resident to cross the estate without setting foot on the ground, effectively destroyed community feeling and played a part in an epidemic of vandalism that is wreaking havoc in empty flats.

The most serious work began on the £5m estate it became apparent, that despite their good intentions, the architects had not allowed for structural deficiencies and council tenants all too obvious hatred for rows of anonymous flats.

Insufficient allowance for the contraction of concrete units led to leaks and cracks appearing within a few years. The council is seeking legal advice

whether to take action against the builders, Bison Concrete (Northern), whose system of factory-built units has long since disappeared, along with the tower blocks.

Nor does it seem that whatever decision is reached will be the end of the matter. Fort Beswick is in Manchester, a similar estate but half the size, is to be investigated and could also face eventual demolition.

It is estimated that it would cost nearly £10m to repair Fort Beswick, with no guarantee that the funds would not reappear. Instead, the suggestion has been put forward that it could be demolished for £5m and 300 houses built on the

site for a further £5m. These suggested houses would not differ much in style from the old Victorian terraces that were razed to make way for the concrete jungle.

Mr John Smith, chairman of the housing committee, which seems to have endorsed at least partial demolition, said yesterday: "We have learnt our lesson. We went through a phase which every city in Britain experienced and all are now experiencing the same sort of problems. We have now moved back to traditional council houses with gardens, and we are certainly presenting a grim prospect on a grey November day."

Residents speak of boredom, loneliness, fleas, cock roaches,

woman, pointed out water streaming down the walls of her house and mould on the ceiling. "There is no atmosphere here and the kids are always fighting", she said. "We have had our house fumigated three times to get rid of bugs. I hope the pull the lot down."

Ms Nuala Murphy, aged 24, said: "The toilets are blocked and the air ever works. There is a horrible smell of all the latrines. It is a horrible place to live, and I am delighted to hear the buildings might be pulled down."

# More spies 'could be named soon'

By Craig Seton and Stewart Tiedler

Mrs Margaret Thatcher was untroubled yesterday by a warning that two more former Soviet spies could soon be named. She refused to give the Commons more information about the scope of the investigation into the spy ring surrounding the now disgraced Anthony Blunt.

The Prime Minister told MPs that nothing said on the subject recently "has come as a surprise to me in any way" and she insisted that Prime Ministers and Home Secretaries, for at least a decade, had been informed of the extent of the counter-espionage operation.

Facing anxious questions from MPs about the case of Leo Long, who confessed last week that he had spied with Blunt, Mrs Thatcher said the group of spies had been investigated "time and again".

She said during question time: "We should never use parliamentary privilege to imply guilt by association or by accusation."

Mr Dennis Canavan, Labour MP for Strathgordon, West, accusing Mrs Thatcher of a whitewash in refusing to disclose how many people had been offered immunity to gain confessions to spying, said *The Sunday Times* had the names of two more traitors who might be revealed this weekend.

He said: "One of them appeared to have expressed surprise at not being prosecuted after confessing to M15. How many more members of the old boy network of traitors and spies must the media reveal before the Prime Minister comes clean and accedes to my demand for a full scale public inquiry into this establishment cover up."

# Prior rejects appeal for Ulster ferry aid

A political argument is looming over the Government's refusal to save the P&O ferry link between Liverpool and Belfast which is due to close today.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, both ruled out any chance of government subsidies.

After meeting a deputation of Labour MPs and trade unionists, Mr Prior said: "It would be foolish to spend taxpayers' money on subsidizing a service which in P&O's own estimation has no long-term prospects of viability and which other operators are willing to test commercially."

"It is in everyone's interest, the travelling public, commercial interests, seamen and shore staff in both Belfast and Liverpool, to cooperate to ensure that a new and commercially successful link can be established as soon as possible."

In the Commons, Mr Michael Foot, the Opposition leader, urged the Prime Minister to keep the ferry link going. "You should take special action which could assist the general atmosphere in Ireland and the approach to fresh agreements for Ireland generally," he said.

But Mrs Thatcher said: "It

# In Brief

## Tunnel to Isle of Wight proposed

The Isle of Wight may not be an island much longer. A plan for a £20m sea-link under the Solent, between Portsmouth and Ryde has been drawn up by Mr Peter White, chairman of the island's transport committee.

Mr White says it would increase the flow of holiday-makers and ease commuting. The island has the South's highest unemployment rate.

## Two die in fire

Mr Maurice Flynn and his daughter Patricia, aged 17, died in a fire in their flat in East Acton, London, yesterday. His wife and two sons escaped.

## Just break-in

Two raiders were being hunted by the police in Devon for breaking into a prison at Channings Wood, Newton Abbot yesterday. They were disturbed before reaching the workshop.

## Riot claims rejected

Claims for compensation of £7,000 for windows broken in Sturminster Newton, Dorset, by a riot in 1973 and as a result the British and Irish governments were in closer accord.

## Wrong arm of the law

A police station hit the arm of his hand. Police Constable Alan Shepley as he tried to arrest a man with an axe in Normanton, Derbyshire, yesterday.

# Dail attack on Irish unity talks

From Christopher Thomas

Dr Garret Fitzgerald, the Prime Minister of the Irish Republic, came under intense opposition attack in the Dail yesterday over the limited agreement he reached with Mrs Margaret Thatcher at Downing Street last Friday.

He insisted, however, that the Irish Republic and Britain were now jointly committed to the task of reconciling the Irish people.

Mr Charles Haughey, the Fianna Fail leader, assured the Dail that the Irish Republic was not backing out of the Anglo-Irish Intergovernmental Council and continuing violence.

Dr Fitzgerald, reporting to the Dail for the first time on the outcome of the talks, presented the summit as a first cautious step towards Irish unity and drew particular significance from Mrs Thatcher's assertion that she would bring forward legislation if the people of Northern Ireland opted for unity.

He said no British government had expressed itself in quite those terms since the Sunningdale talks in 1973 and as a result the British and Irish governments were in closer accord.

Mr Haughey, however, dismissed Mrs Thatcher's remarks as insignificant because it had been implicit for 60 years that the British would, probably with enthusiasm, support any desire by unionists to join the rest of Ireland.

The strength of Mr Haughey's attack leaves no doubt that he has reversed to his more familiar, cautious approach to Northern Ireland after adopting a conciliatory tone during his 18 months as Prime Minister.

# Judge limits second move to use contempt Act

By Frances Gibb

A second attempt to ban press reports of legal proceedings under the new Contempt of Court Act was made in the High Court yesterday, at the end of the first day's hearing of a test case which challenges the use of the same powers by West Sussex magistrates.

A journalist, Mr Ian Farquharson, the National Union of Journalists and the West Sussex County Times, backed by the Newspaper Society, are contesting a ban imposed by Horsham magistrates on reporting of the criminal proceedings in an alleged gun-running case.

Reporting restrictions had been lifted in the case, but counsel for one of the defendants successfully applied for the ban under Section Four (II) of the Act because the case, he said, involved emotive issues and magistrates would hear details of police assassinations. Publicity would be prejudicial to the interests of justice.

Yesterday, at the end of a day's legal argument, Mr Brian Leary, QC, counsel for one of the defendants, asked for a similar ban under the same section to be imposed by the High Court judges.

He said he was anxious that no details be published until the judges, Mr Justice Forbes and Mr Justice Gildwell, had given their judgment on whether to quash the order for the ban.

Although he had had assurances from journalists in court that names would not be mentioned, Mr Leary said, he was anxious that the order should be made wide enough to prevent publication of other prejudicial details by other journalists.

He referred to an article about the case in *The Observer* last Sunday, pointing out that that article did not give the defendants' names.

Mr Justice Forbes said an

# Science report

## The race to study threatened species

By Tony Samstag

With 10 per cent, or about 25,000, of the world's plant species thought to be endangered, plant biologists are racing against time to study primitive cultivars (that is, cultivated plants) and wild species that may be of use to man.

In a booklet published by the World Wildlife Fund, Robert and Christine Prescott-Allen offer a useful restatement of the case for preserving even the most obscure species, and a summary of progress to date.

Modern cultivars have often been bred for certain characteristics: giant fruits and storage organs, seedlessness, ease of harvesting and the like. Other qualities, such as disease and pest resistance or environmental adaptability, may suffer; and the tendency towards monoculture aggravates the effects of that genetic insufficiency.

In the case of pests and diseases, the authors write: "Sometimes, evolution is so rapid that the pathogen has overcome the resistance before a new variety can be put on the market."

When the lack of a certain characteristic threatens the viability of a particular crop, plant breeders look for that characteristic in the various relatives on a descending scale: modern cultivars, land races (the traditional or primitive cultivars), and finally the wild species.

Cross-breeding with wild or primitive species has been instrumental, for example, in increasing sunflower yields by 30 per cent and more than doubling the yield of rice. In the case, while "the new cherry rootstock 'Malling' Colt" — a cross between the cultivated cherry and the wild *Praunus pseudocerasus* from Northern China — virtually saved the United Kingdom cherry industry from decline."

Prospects for plant conservation are still uncertain, the authors conclude, especially when compared with the overwhelming public interest in the conservation of large wild mammals. The breeding of wild plants can take a very long time, perhaps 20 years in some cases; during that period, habitat destruction may well have wiped out thousands of species that have not even been discovered.

Plant breeders and conservationists, meanwhile, rely on a combination of genetic banks and nature reserves to salvage as much as they can before time runs out.

Source: *Wildplants and Crop Improvement* by Robert and Christine Prescott-Allen. World Wildlife Fund, Panda House, 1-13 Oakford Road, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1QU.

# NURSES IN PAY PLEA TO THATCHER

By Our Health Services Correspondent

Leaders of Britain's 500,000 nurses are seeking an urgent meeting with the Prime Minister because of "deep bitterness and frustration" about their pay.

They claim to have been misled by Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister for Health, who 18 months ago, promised a new, fairer mechanism for determining nurses' pay. Now they have been told they will have to abide by the 4 per cent cash limit set for next year's health service pay round.

No new mechanism will be discussed until after the Megaw Committee reports on Civil Service pay next summer, Dr Vaughan has said.

Dr David Williams, chairman of the Nurses and Midwives Whitley Council, and assistant general secretary of the Confederation of Health Service Employees (Cohse) said: "We have been misled and misled by the health minister."

Unions affiliated to the TUC, representing 650,000 health workers, have decided to submit a claim of 11 to 12 per cent a year to the Government and it seems possible that the Royal College of Nursing, which is not affiliated, might join them.

The college, which opposes industrial action, is launching a campaign at its annual general meeting today.

Nurses' pay, excluding payments for weekend and night duty, range from £107.93 to £236.77 a week for a sister, while staff nurses at £85.34 to £104.06 and enrolled nurses at £76.82 to £92.73 a week.

# MR NIGEL LEE

Nigel Lee, aged 32, of Redwood Court, Green Lane, Nottingham, who was jailed for four months by Nottingham magistrates on September 23 for a public order offence during the summer riots, was released on October 9 after appeal at Nottingham Crown Court. The court dismissed his appeal against conviction, but partly allowed his appeal against sentence. The judge said the court accepted police evidence that Mr Lee used abusive words and struggled to resist arrest, but had doubt whether he was using abusive words and struggling towards the police before they arrested him.

Overseas selling prices  
Nigeria 50p; Bahrain 50p; Guyana 50p; Hong Kong 50p; India 50p; Israel 50p; Japan 50p; Korea 50p; Kuwait 50p; Lebanon 50p; Libya 50p; Malaysia 50p; Oman 50p; Pakistan 50p; Qatar 50p; Saudi Arabia 50p; Singapore 50p; South Africa 50p; Sri Lanka 50p; Taiwan 50p; Thailand 50p; Turkey 50p; United Arab Emirates 50p; United Kingdom 50p; USA 50p; Venezuela 50p.

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Or call in at any Royal Navy and Royal Marines Careers Information Office.

# Praise for Carrington halts Synod debate on arms

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

A remarkable tribute to the statesmanship of Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, from the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, stopped a disarmament debate at the General Synod of the Church of England yesterday.

The Synod proceeded no further with its consideration of a motion calling for the appointment of a Secretary of State for Disarmament, and turned to other matters.

The debate was full of evidence of great concern on the issues of arms control and nuclear weapons, and the highest applause was for a member who insisted that the Church of England must rapidly make up its mind where it stood.

But Dr Runcie's endorsement of Lord Carrington's peace-making work seemed to bring about an abrupt change of attitude on the right way to proceed to express their general concern. He said neither the motion nor any of the related amendments deserved support.

"I want to pay tribute to some of the recent speeches of Lord Carrington," the Archbishop said, "such as his initiative in the Middle East, his speeches as president of the Council of Ministers in Europe, and his more explicit commitment to development policies."

Dr Runcie recalled that on several recent issues, he had been at odds with the Government. But he went on: "I believe at this moment we should welcome and support the statesmanlike way the Foreign Secretary wins respect as a genuine seeker for peace and international justice, within the present political realities."

It was better to back the Foreign Secretary's efforts than to divert attention with a proposal "which might be merely cosmetic or might seem to be another contribution on the part of the church which is predictable, carrying and complementing the motion calling for a Cabinet minister for disarmament had come up in the ballot for private members' motions. Proposing it, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, the Right Rev John Bickersteth, said he, like many others, felt a new urgency about the issue of nuclear war, although, like the Archbishop of Canterbury later, he distanced himself from the campaign for unilateral nuclear disarmament.

It was encouraging that so many had marched for peace in London last month, but he gave a warning against "the over-simplification of CND."

"Suddenly the evil of what we are doing is becoming apparent to hundreds of thousands of ordinary citizens in many countries," the Bishop said. "We have realized that we are acquiescing in plans for the destruction of civilization."

The Cabinet minister would be a focal point for "this convergence of British opinion," he said. Mr Douglas Hurd, the Minister of State at the Foreign Office, was on his own admission, too busy.

The Synod was told that a report on the fundamental ethics of nuclear deterrence was being brought to it for debate next year.

# NO GRANTS FOR VISA STUDENTS

By Diana Geddes

The definition of an overseas student was clarified by the Court of Appeal yesterday.

Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, and Lord Justice Templeman, ruled that a student on a student visa renewed every year was not an overseas student for the purpose of a grant.

In four of six cases considered, the students had been resident for longer than three years, but at least part of their stay had been on student visas, and that period could not count towards the three years of ordinary residence, even though they were United Kingdom citizens.

The court dismissed appeals by Mr Jitendra Shah, Mr Kamid Akbarali, Mr Abu Abdullah and Mr Madjid Shabbar against refusal of grants.

The court ruled that Mr Nilish Shah, a Kenyan citizen, and Miss Joanne Ahlback, a United Kingdom citizen, had been resident over the relevant period, and ordered that their cases be remitted for reconsideration.



## Foot promises to fight 'damage of extremists'

By George Clark

Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Opposition, yesterday reasserted his determination to try to undo the damage done by the Labour Party, giving a role on the front bench to Mr Denis Healey and Mr Wedgwood Benn, as part of the healing process.

More significantly, he said he wanted the party to deal effectively within the next year with the damage being done by the infiltration of extremists belonging to the Militant Tendency. He described them as "a pestilential nuisance".

If he can persuade the party's national executive to take prompt action against the Trotskyist entryists, whom Mr James Callaghan, the former leader, has said are leading the party to disaster and alienating the support of Labour voters, Mr Foot will have some influence on moderate, mainstream Labour MPs who are now under threat of not being re-elected or are considering retiring or switching to the Social Democratic Party.

But in an interview on BBC radio with Sir Robin Day, he conceded that it would not be easy. "It is very difficult to know how you take effective action against them," he said.

"You could expel them," suggested Sir Robin.

"It is not easy to expel them, particularly when they are not members of a particular organisation," Mr Foot replied. "However, I am not prejudging this question. This matter came up at the organisation committee of the party yesterday on the basis of a letter sent by members of the Militant group... Whether that is the best way to raise the matter is another question... but it is still possible for the executive to return to that subject if they wish to look at aspects of the Militant tendency and others who may be involved in these matters..."

He rejected Mr Callaghan's suggestion that the militant Trotskyists were leading the party to disaster. He thought they were a pestilential nuisance, but how one dealt with a nuisance was another question.

"I want to deal with it effectively, so that having spent a considerable time over the diversion on the deputy leadership election over the past year, we do not spend next year arguing about the expulsion of the Militant Tendency or the expulsion of others."

"Indeed, I still hope that I can be the leader of a party in which there are no expulsions because I remember that expulsions, whether of the right or of the left, can do great damage to the party."

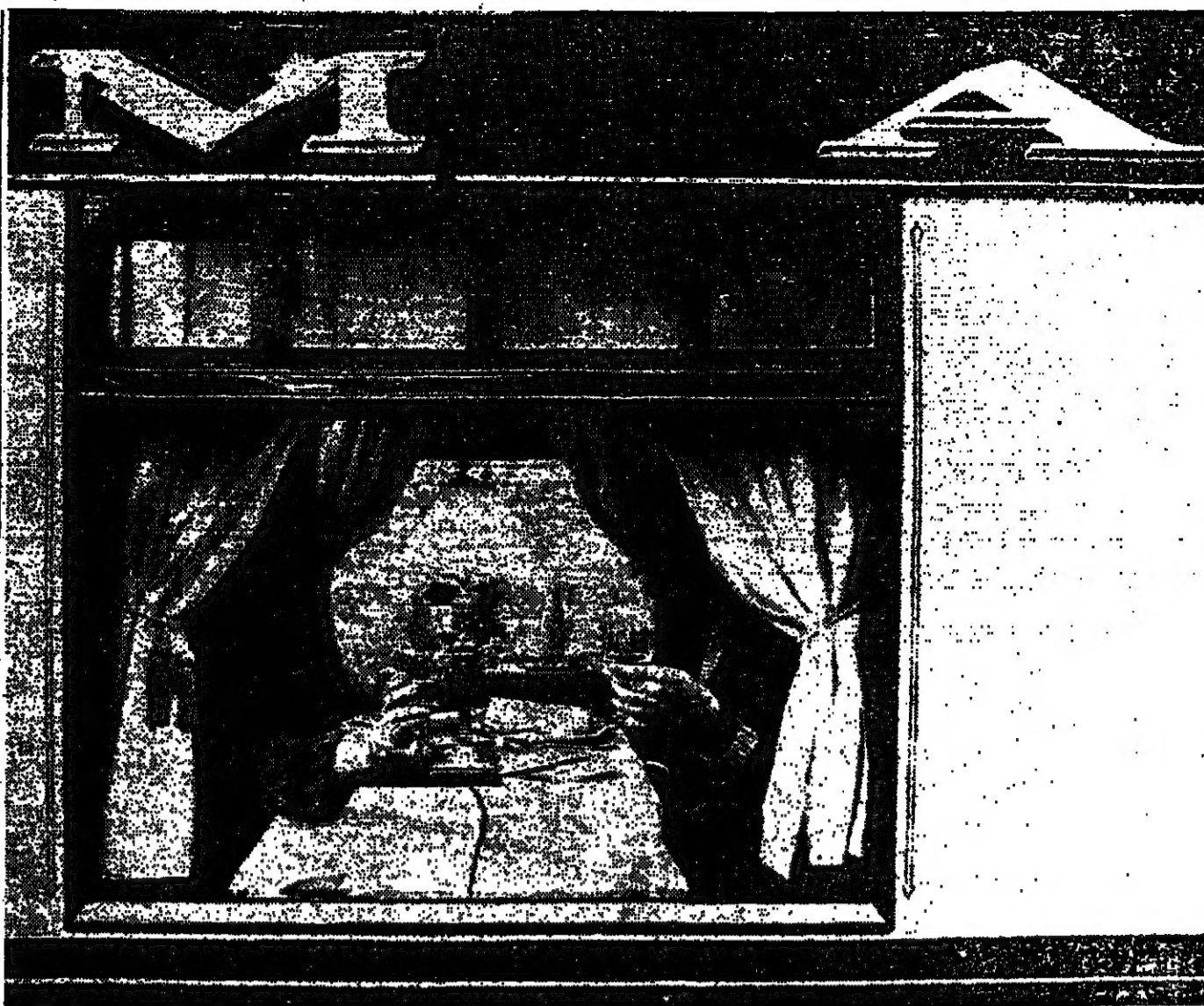
Earlier in the interview, Mr Foot said he had not the slightest intention of giving up the leadership, despite the promptings of newspapers. So long as he was the elected leader, he would do his best to discharge his duties.

When asked why Mr Benn had been chosen as front bench speaker in last night's energy debate, Mr Foot said Mr Benn had considerable knowledge about the nation's energy problems. The whole Shadow Cabinet, "without a single whisper of discontent", had agreed with the suggestion that Mr Benn should speak.

A leading article in *The Times*, in which Mr Foot was likened to a "man of flight deck of his plane who has not been told that a hijack is taking place", was put to him.

Mr Foot replied: *The Times* has never been the best qualified to advise me how to lead the Labour Party.

"They were not very good on appeasement either," Sir Robin said. "Any and every good on appeasement I am grateful for your prompting," Mr Foot said.



Passengers on the newly-restored Orient Express drink a toast to the success of the new service

## Dreams of the Orient

The Orient Express is back in business, and the public were afforded a glimpse yesterday of the anachronistic delights in store for them when a smattering, at least, of the legendary London-to-Venice service resumes next year (Tony Samstag writes).

Four, luxury Pullman carriages and a baggage brake have been restored to their decadent Thirties grandeur by Venice Simphon-Orient-Express Ltd and are to figure prominently in the twice-weekly service from London to Folkestone and then, via Sealink, onward from Boulogne.

But legends do not come cheap. The 23-hour journey will cost £250, excluding meals.

The faces at the window yesterday belong to Miss Sara Jordan (above, left) and Miss Kim Burgess. Both are students.



## Hot water from below ground on tap soon

By Pearce Wright

Science Editor

Hot water from an underground reservoir, formed about 20 million years ago in a strata of sandstone 6,000 ft beneath the southern counties of England, will begin to flow to the surface in a few days.

Provided the temperature and the chemistry of the water conforms to predictions of the geologists, construction will start on the first geothermal power station in Britain.

The borehole from which the hot water will be extracted is in the middle of Southampton. The water will be pumped at about six gallons a second through a heat exchanger to transfer the energy to purer water supplying a district heating service.

The first buildings to be linked to the scheme will be at the civic centre and city swimming baths. But shops, offices, hotels, light industry and recreational facilities in a new development will be the main customers.

The aquifer being tapped is estimated to stretch from Poole in the west to Brighton in the east, bounded by Winchester in the north. Hence there is optimism about developing the reservoir as a significant source of supply.

## Broadmoor escaper demands his release

By Lucy Hodges

Alan Reeve, the convicted killer who escaped from Broadmoor top-security hospital three months ago, wants the Home Secretary to announce his release in view of last week's judgment by the European Court of Human Rights.

In a letter to a reporter on *The Times*, posted in London on Monday, and signed by him and his fiancée, Patricia Ford, with whom he is on the run, Reeve says that the European judges' decision vindicates their action "insofar as it recognizes at last implicitly that we behaved as good citizens".

*The Times* has forwarded the letter to Thames Valley Police.

The European Court judgment, which is expected to be written into law during the passage of the Mental Health (Amendment) Bill through Parliament, says that all restricted patients should be able to appeal for release to a court or tribunal. At present the Home Secretary decides on their release. It also says that there has to be reliable medical evidence that a person is of unsound mind in order to be detained.

The Home Office declined yesterday to comment on Reeve's letter.

The letter, which carries a SW1 postmark, is one of several Reeve has sent recently to people he was in contact with before his escape.

In their latest letter Reeve and Miss Ford say that the Home Secretary's refusal to authorize release, against the advice of medical and nursing staff at Broadmoor, is an example of political bias and inhuman disregard of a person's life.

The couple said that the Home Secretary should withdraw arrest warrants for them.

Detective Sergeant Michael Cassidy, of Thames Valley CID which is organizing the hunt for Reeve, said that the search had gone quite dead.

## BEER STRIKE OVER

A strike of 460 draymen employed by Bass North, which closed 300 public houses and laid off thousands of staff in the Yorkshire and Humberside area, ended yesterday when they accepted the brewery's original wage offer of between £8.70 and £9.50 a week.

## Policeman bailed

A police chief inspector accused of causing criminal damage to a telephone box, was remanded on bail by magistrates at Staines, Surrey, yesterday. Leslie Matthews-Stroud, aged 47, of London Road, Staines, will appear in court next month.

## Crosby by-election

## Williams attacks tigers of left

From Anthony Bevins Political Correspondent

Mrs Shirley Williams said yesterday that Labour's right wing could be wiped out of existence by the "tigers of the hard left".

The Social Democratic-Liberal Alliance candidate for the Crosby by-election told a press conference: "I am not sure there will be a Labour right-wing when it comes to the next election."

Moderate Labour MPs were leaving or being ousted from the party at staggering speed. "We may get a Labour Party which is in fact a new Marxist party by the time the next election comes."

She welcomed the refreshing left-wing candour of Mr John Biddis, the Labour candidate, who has declared his commitment to a package of Bennite policies. He is a great symbol of what is happening," she said.

She said yesterday was the first anniversary of Mr Foot's election as leader of the party, but she could not wish many happy returns. "One might describe his first year as a whistlestop on the way to disaster."

Listing the nails driven into Labour's coffin, Mrs Williams recalled that the Labour conference had confirmed the left-wing policies that Mr Benn and Mr Heffer had been re-elected to powerful chairmanships on the national executive, that an investigation of the Militant tendency had been ruled out, and that extremists had been chosen as candidates over moderate MPs in Bradford and Bermondsey.

She also said that the trickle of Labour MPs refusing to stand for reelection as candidates had grown to a flood. "The straight truth is that they are not prepared to

be talking dummies, with strings pulled by the Militant tendency."

Mrs Williams turned to Mr Foot's "astounding" decision to allow Mr Wedgwood Benn to make yesterday's front bench speech in the Commons on energy.

Mr Benn had been picked for such a key position on the eve of the forthcoming Shadow Cabinet elections. That, she said, was one more sign of Mr Foot's determination to curry favour with the left, "which is like patting a tiger on the head, and that is exactly what Mr Foot has been doing."

Mrs Williams added: "The tiger responds by gobbling up yet another moderate MP."

She said the party was increasingly being hijacked by the hard left, many of them new members. "They want to join in the final feast of the tigers."

Asked what would happen if the alliance held the balance of power after the next election, she said that if Labour went far left and the Conservatives failed to change their policies, the alliance would win outright.

If the Conservatives swung towards the centre, the alliance would be most unlikely to support a left-wing Labour government.

She said: "If the Conservative Party changed substantially, there might be a balance of power situation, and that would make the Conservatives a party we could probably work with."

Mrs Williams said that if such an administration agreed to pursue moderate consensus policies, it was possible that the alliance would maintain that government on power beyond the fundamental deliv-

ery of proportional representation.

Another sign of cross-currents at Crosby came yesterday when a card-carrying member of Crosby's Conservative Association punctured the party's claim that there was overwhelming by-election backing for Mrs Thatcher's policies.

Mr John Butcher, the Conservative candidate, said in a press statement yesterday that a public meeting on Monday had shown overwhelming endorsement of government strategy. "I have not yet met a voter who has told me face-to-face that he is switching," he said.

In fact, Monday's meeting in the heart of a Conservative ward disclosed marked criticism of the Government's approach to the economy. There were indications from the platform of the party's private concern that Crosby could inflict a humiliating vote of censure on the Government.

One who criticized the government at the Monday meeting was Mr Alastair Burley, who runs a small industrial business on the borders of the constituency. He said yesterday that he had voted Conservative for more than thirty years and was still a paid-up party member.

But he added: "I would not support the Conservative Party now because it has become so right-wing under Mrs Thatcher. She is a most able woman, but her outlook is not my outlook. She is taking us back to the clothe-cap years of the 1930s."

Mr Burley, who served for six years on the CBI council, explained: "I do not think this Government's monetarist policies will work."

## Injury benefit plan aimed at long-term disabled

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Radical changes in the industrial injuries scheme to concentrate more cash help on the long-term severely disabled at the expense of those suffering from less serious injuries were outlined in a White Paper yesterday.

The main improvements would come from extending the present special hardship allowance to more industrially disabled people and raising its present maximum level from £19.32 a week to £48.30.

The main losers would be the 548,000 people who claim injury benefit each year. That is to be abolished under the Social Security and Housing Benefits Bill next year. At present the benefit is paid at £2.75 a week, more than sickness benefit, a differential that has not changed in cash terms since 1967.

In addition, the White Paper proposes to withdraw the unemployment supplement, now paid to 300 people at a weekly rate of £28.35 a week, to end the hospital treatment allowance paid to 3,000 people a year, and to withdraw the special hardship allowance from people over retirement age except for those pensioners already receiving it when the change is made.

The White Paper makes it clear that the main proposals for improving industrial injury compensation are open to discussion, and comments are being invited up to next March.

Those proposals are concerned mainly with the future of the special hardship allowance, now paid to 447,000 people on top of disability benefit because they cannot return to their original jobs and cannot follow alternative employment with equivalent earnings.

The White Paper proposes that the allowances should be renamed "reduced earnings allowance", cover half the earnings losses up to a much higher figure, be extended to the very severely disabled and be made independent from disability benefit. In addition, the new allowance would be increased in line with movements in earnings.

The White Paper also proposes to bring payment of disability benefit forward to 15 weeks after the injury, instead of 26 at present.

*Reform of the Industrial Injuries Scheme, Command Paper 8402 (Stationery Office, £3.05).*

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## From yesterday's later editions

## CAMBRIDGE BACKS THE LADY

A motion at the Cambridge Union calling for stricter laws on obscenity was carried by 357 votes to 191. Mrs Mary Whitehouse was the principal speaker for the motion, and the main opposer was Mr Victor Lowmes, former chairman of the Playboy Organisation in Britain.

## Combating racism

The formation of special anti-racist police squads, as proposed by the Joint Committee against Racism, is not favoured by Mr Whitlaw, Home Secretary. Instead he recommends police monitoring of such attacks and improved training.

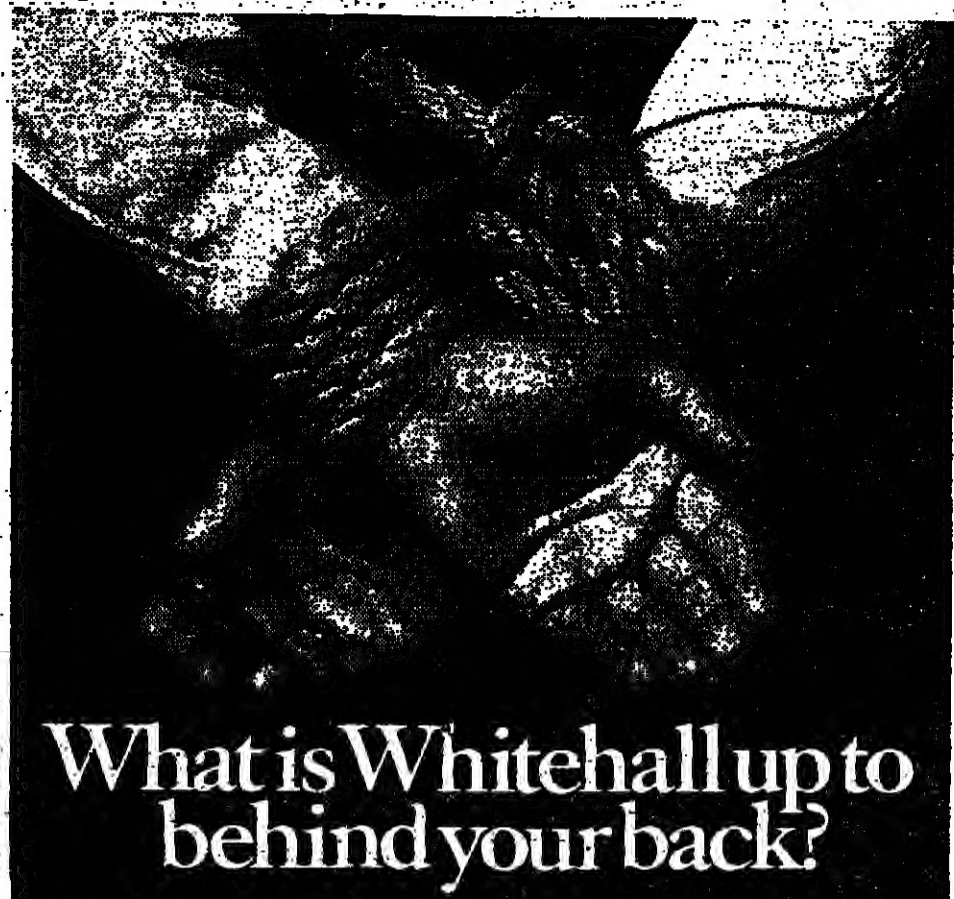
## Complaint upheld

Mr Cecil Clothier, the Health Service Commissioner (Ombudsman) upheld a complaint by a patient who was refused a false breast after an operation because the consultant surgeon thought it would be too expensive to the health service. The surgeon was reprimanded.









## What is Whitehall up to behind your back?

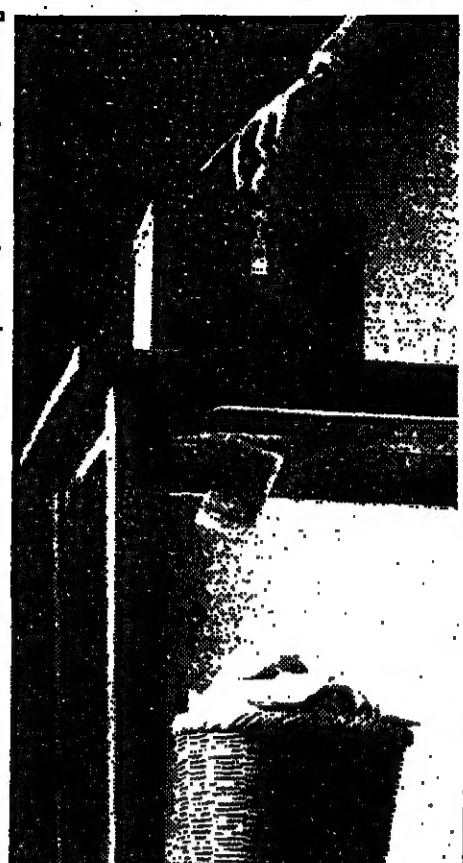
There's some very worrying legislation about to creep in and out of Parliament. The idea is to take away your Local Authority's power to levy rates. If you have rates (and who doesn't), you could be forced into believing its good news. That's what Whitehall is relying on. But think. Without money your council is without power. It can't make decisions. It can't go against Whitehall. Even if you want to on certain issues. That's the value of your local council. It can check excessive control of local affairs by any Government. Remember after a general election the Government don't have to be nice for five years. When you come to us with your problems our hands will be tied. We'll both come up against this innocent looking law. And like all laws, just try arguing with it. It won't matter if your local council knows the roads are bad (he lives there). It won't matter if the local school is closing (he'll probably have children there). It won't matter if the old people's home is overcrowded. There will be no point appealing to us. No point in attending council meetings. In fact there will be no real point in electing councillors at all. As things are, our doors are open. Whitehall will stay closed. Governments ask you to give them your vote when it suits them. Make no mistake. With this legislation, as far as local elections are concerned, they might as well take your right to vote away.

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## Watch out. Whitehall has plans for your local elections.

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## Whitehall's new idea for dealing with local questions.

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# Why we're running these advertisements.

In recent weeks we've been trying to warn the public about Whitehall's proposed rating legislation.

Everybody dislikes rate increases. So Whitehall's proposals may sound attractive.

But if they become law, the consequences could be serious.

Whitehall would control local rates. It would be able to imprint the ideas of any central government on local policies.

Local authorities would become powerless to make local decisions.

Even though they know best what local problems are.

As it is, councillors are aware of the needs of the area they serve because they live there. Educate their children there.

And are always open to approach, or reproach, from their ratepayers.

They are elected to their positions irrespective of which party holds the reins in Westminster.

And historically have had the right to disagree with central policies.

Local authorities have been able to check the excesses of the

Government in power.

But now this moderating influence is in danger of being removed.

Why?

Simply to penalise a handful of local authorities who have not met the spending limits imposed on them by Whitehall.

Most have managed to make the severe cuts asked of them.

Even though central government has actually increased its spending while Local Authorities have been tightening their belts.

The Public Expenditure White Paper (March 1981) shows that since 1975 Central Government expenditure has gone up by 8%. Local Government expenditure has dropped by 20%.

The cunning part of the proposed legislation is in Whitehall's idea to force referenda on Local Authorities before they implement any policies they might need to.

It would seem fair, and democratic.

Except that it will cost millions of pounds of rate-payers' money.

Except that it undercuts the mandate given local councillors by the rate-payers who voted them into office to pursue those self-same

policies. Without reference to any central authority.

Except that the wording of any referendum would be decided by Whitehall.

And except for the fact that no government has ever gone to the people before hiking our taxes up.

We believe that if Whitehall gets its way with the new legislation, doors that were once open will become closed.

And that by consolidating power at the centre now, Whitehall will be preparing the ground for radical changes to our democratic system.

Perhaps in five or ten years.

When there are new governments in control.

We have been forced to advertise our case since we believe that Whitehall has purposely been diverting attention away from the real issues.

Before these proposals are made law, we think they should be debated.

In public.

Write to your M.P. Speak out now.

Help keep local affairs local.

**KEEP IT local**

\*CMD 8175



## 70 would-be jurors are asked about race views

Seventy men and women called for jury service crowded together in a court at the Central Criminal Court yesterday and were asked by a judge to express their racial or political views.

The unusual jury selection process was sanctioned by Judge Edward Clarke, QC, after consultation with lawyers in the case of four West Indian men on charges arising out of the killing of a white man in Hackney, London, on May 8.

All outsiders were asked to leave the body of the court to make way for the would-be jurors.

Then Judge Clarke told them that at the request of the prosecution and defence he wanted to say to them: "If any of you hold strong views against black people or in support of parties of the extreme right like the National Front or the British Movement, or the extreme left like the Socialist Workers' Party or the Anti-Nazi League you should, under those circumstances, disqualify yourselves by saying you should not wish to be considered for this jury."

The judge added: "That does not mean you can go home. It means you will serve on another jury where those considerations do not apply."

The judge asked for a show of hands for those who considered their views too extreme for the case. Four white men raised their arms and were asked to leave the court. A jury of 10 white and two black people were then sworn in to try the case, which will start on Thursday. Defence counsel objected to nine potential jurors and one was objected to by the prosecution.

The four defendants are Newton Rose, aged 20, a decorator, of Olinda Road, Stoke Newington, Ian Henry, aged 20, of Meridian Walk, Tottenham, Michael Clarke, aged 20, of Scarborough Road, Leytonstone, and Orville Johnson, aged 20, of no fixed address.

Mr Rose pleaded not guilty to the murder of Anthony Donnelly, aged 22, a labourer of Darnley Road, Hackney.

All four pleaded not guilty to attempting to pervert the course of justice by making false statements to detectives investigating the murder.

### CLOCKS HAUL

Thieves with clocks and watches valued at £17,500 after breaking into the shop of Evans and Evans at Alresford, Hampshire, yesterday.

## Building society secretary jailed for £150,000 theft

From Our Correspondent, Derby

A building society secretary on a salary of £5,000 spent hundreds of pounds on entertaining guests at his £58,000 country house, it was said at Derby Crown Court yesterday.

Roy Ward, who was jailed for three years on theft and forgery charges, included among his guests the directors of the society from which he was regularly stealing large sums of money.

Judge Hopkins told him: "I just do not understand why the directors, who knew the way you were living, did not realize there was something very suspicious about it and take steps. That might have ended your dishonest career at an early stage."

Mr Ward, aged 52, of White Carr Lane, Brackenfield, Derbyshire, started stealing small amounts from his employers in 1972. By the time



Crisis at Christmas: Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary launching a campaign for the single homeless at the Mission Day Centre, Whitechapel Road, East London yesterday. With him is one of the old people for whom the charity is seeking aid.

### Peace group protests

## Nuclear HQ for National Trust land

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The increasingly vocal peace movement has declared war on a Ministry of Defence plan to excavate National Trust land in the Chiltern Hills to build underground operations centre for the RAF. It will be hardened against nuclear attack.

The centre, on land near High Wycombe in Buckinghamshire, is intended to replace "Bomber" Harris's obsolete wartime operations room, still in use near by as part of Nato defences.

Mr Benedict Rubbra, who lives a mile from the intended site and is a member of the Wycombe peace council, says that those who support the National Trust's aims are being betrayed by its intention to surrender land to the ministry without a public inquiry.

The centre will command RAF operations throughout the world, except those of the tactical air force in West Germany. It would be an obvious wartime target.

Mr Rubbra claims that, when completed, the new bunker will be topped by a 35ft mound covering 9 acres to an enclosure of about 11 acres, surrounded by two 6ft 6in security fences, one with lights. During the construction there will be up to

75 lorries a day, he says, for between four and 10 years, travelling through two National Trust villages, Bradenham and West Wycombe.

Part of the controversy surrounds access to the land through Grim's Dyke, an ancient monument which runs for several miles through the Chilterns.

The Ministry of Defence says that only the width of a road could be affected, and that any damage would be made good. The National Trust says that a hardened earthen track already crosses the dyke; the gap would be widened to provide temporary access during construction.

The Ministry of Defence said yesterday that villagers who were worried about lorry traffic had been told that no decision had yet been taken on the route.

The mound would rise to about 30ft at its highest point. Top soil would be replaced over the site, it would be reseeded and trees would be planted.

Mr Julian Pridoux, National Trust director for the Thames and Chiltern region, said the trust was approached in 1978 by the Ministry of Defence to lease 12 acres of land at Hollybush

Farm, near RAF High Wycombe. It did not form part of the important valley landscape and was well screened by woodland.

The country council had said that most of the roads leading to RAF High Wycombe were not capable of taking heavy lorries. The trust, with the ministry and local authorities, was exploring ways of bypassing Bradenham with a temporary access road.

"We do not know what the effect will be on the property at Bradenham or on the quality of life," the ministry had said the optimum period of construction would be five years.

Mr Pridoux said that the regional committee was not yet satisfied with some aspects of the proposals and had no intention of settling the matter until they were.

Full agreement had yet to be reached. The proposed doubling of the size of a missile test area in the Western Isles has drawn protests from Skye and Lochalsh District Council.

The Ministry of Defence wants to extend the 10 square miles restricted fishing in the inner sound of Rannoch to prevent damage to costly hydrophones fixed to the seabed.

The range is used for the test firing of missiles by submarines, for research and development of heavyweight torpedoes with acoustic guidance, and for the testing of the air-dropped Stingray missile.

Mr William Nicolson, chairman of the district council, said: "These people are going back on their word to us. I have been at several meetings in past years with ministry officials and Royal Navy representatives and every time we have agreed to more measures for this range we have been told no further extensions or restrictions would be wanted."

A senior navy officer at base headquarters in Kyle of Lochalsh said the extension would tidy up the range limits at present irregular areas in mid-channel, to cover the full width of the channel.

The Home Office published a free pamphlet yesterday answering criticisms of civil defence.

Intended to be available from local authorities, police stations, and libraries, the pamphlet explains the need for deep bunkers to protect key personnel in the event of a nuclear attack. It says that millions of lives could be saved by civil defence.

## Restrictions on tattooists are ordered

By Nicholas Timmins

The Government is to give local authorities powers to regulate the activities of tattooists, acupuncturists and ear-piercers because of outbreaks of hepatitis in recent years.

Measures to that effect have been drafted by the Department of Health and Social Security for inclusion in a proposed local authorities Bill.

The increased popularity of tattooing and ear-piercing, not only of the ears but other parts of the body, has led to outbreaks of hepatitis where proper hygiene standards were not observed. The risk comes when a customer is a carrier of the disease and unsterilized needles are reused, or from eyes into which the infected needles have been placed.

In 1978 and 1979 several hepatitis cases were traced to a tattooist and ear-piercer in Kent 34 people were infected. In another outbreak, seven were infected, while two cases were traced to a neighbour working from home. Although serum hepatitis can be lethal, none of the victims died, although a quarter of those in the worst outbreak needed hospital treatment.

About 20 cases of hepatitis a year, about 2 per cent of the total, are notified as being due to tattooing. Those, however, are almost certainly just the tip of the iceberg, according to Dr Norman Heath, of the Communicable Diseases Surveillance Centre, who has drawn up a model code for safe tattooing.

Because the disease can take up to six months to develop, it is difficult to pinpoint the source of infection. In the Kent outbreak, for example, the 34 cases were established as due to tattooing only when two cases were linked by chance and investigated.

Hepatitis is highly infectious, one cubic centimetre of blood theoretically containing enough virus to infect 12,500 people. In most parts of the country, however, anyone can set up as a tattooist, ear-piercer or acupuncturist without regulation, unaware of the infection risks.

Recently, the Greater London Council and local authorities in the West Midlands and South Yorkshire took powers to register practitioners, but in each case an Act of Parliament was needed. The cost has deterred some other local authorities from acting on the new measure which would give all of them the regulatory powers required.

Dr Noag, who yesterday welcomed the decision, said he was preparing a code of practice for acupuncturists.

## Doctors told to encourage disabled self-help groups

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

Doctors should stop criticising patients' associations and encourage all those suffering from chronic disabilities to seek counselling from fellow sufferers, Dr Charles Fletcher, a chest physician and former television doctor, said yesterday.

Dr Fletcher, a diabetic, Lady Masham of Ilton, a paraplegic, and Sir Peter Medawar, CH a Nobel Prize winner and stroke victim, all gave moving personal accounts of coping with their disabilities at a Royal College of Physicians symposium in London.

Dr Fletcher said that doctors often showed little sympathy to their diabetic patients and kept them on unnecessarily strict regimes. By frequently checking his blood and urine sugar levels, he had found he could be fairly free with his diet and live a relatively normal life.

He said that patients' associations, which many doctors tend to run down, can be enormously helpful. The mother of a child diabetic had been told by her doctor there was no need to join the Diabetic Association because he could give her all the

information she needed. But he could not introduce her to other mothers, he said.

All hospitals clinics should have card indexes of patients who were doing well, despite their disability, who could provide counselling for other patients, he added.

Mr Fletcher, who was crippled by a riding accident in 1951, said that his thought is best for new paraplegics to be treated in spinal injury units, because they received inspiration from those with worse injuries but higher morale.

Sir Peter Medawar, Nobel Prize winner for medicine in 1960 and a former director of the National Institute for Medical Research at Mill Hill, described his experiences after his stroke in 1963 at "Dortheboys" Hall rehabilitation centre.

"The time of the place was set in the first 20 minutes when the director said it was not a hospital, it was a home. Anything for his paralyzed arm because it would never get better. It never did get better but he felt that no new patient should have been treated by such a blunt and insensitive way."

### TV LICENCE PROTESTER SET FREE

A pensioner who chose to go to jail rather than pay a fine for not having a television licence has been released after an anonymous businessman paid his fine.

Len Walker, aged 67, was back at his home in Wilby Road Drive, Malins, Leicestershire, last night after being released from Shrewsbury Prison. He had served two days of a 14-day term suspended in default of £24 fine made by magistrates at Wellington last August.

Mr Walker, a founder member of the Telford branch of the British Pensioners and Trade Unions Action Association, had said he was making his protest on behalf of all Britain's pensioners who could not afford the cost of living on the present State pension.

Mr Harry Crompton, branch secretary, said: "This businessman has acted for the best motives, but he has rather knocked the wind out of our sails."

Len would have been quite happy to have served the full 14 days.

### TEACHERS TO SEEK INDEX LINKED RISE

By Our Education Correspondent

Union leaders representing 450,000 teachers in England and Wales agreed yesterday to press for a pay increase linked to the rise in the cost of living over the past year; the annual inflation rate is at present 11.4 per cent.

Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers and leader of the Burnham committee, the national negotiating body on teachers' pay, said that there had been an overwhelming majority on the teachers' panel in favour of a claim based on the movement of the retail price index since their last pay rise in April 1981.

"We owe it to teachers to seek to do that, knowing the hardships that many are suffering and knowing also on the comparability of their salaries has been eroded," he said.

The teachers' panel also decided to press for the establishment of special machinery to determine teachers' pay in future on the basis of comparability with other professional groups, and for safeguards to protect teachers' salaries from the effects of the fall in the number of pupils in schools. A teacher's salary is based in part on school size.

## Nimeiry outlines recovery plan as Cabinet falls

Khartoum, Nov 10.—The dismissal of the Sudanese Government, announced last night by President Gaafar Nimeiry, confirms a serious deterioration in the country's economy.

The President severely criticized the Government for a serious deterioration in production in the past few years. He announced a 12.5 per cent devaluation of the Sudanese pound, a 40 per cent increase in taxes on oil, a 10 per cent rise in taxes on imports and the abolition of subsidies on cooking oil, wheat and sugar. The measures were part of an 18-point economic recovery plan.

The subsidy on cooking oil is being dropped at once, and those for wheat and sugar phased out. Their abolition, when townships are suffering food shortages, could provoke unrest and have serious repercussions. The subsidies have been costing £500m a year. The International Monetary Fund said they had to end in return for aid of \$22m (£16m) as part of a policy of "free market".

The government resisted at first but has had to submit. The country also faces a public debt of \$3,000m. Western creditors in the Club of Paris agreed in 1979 to reschedule it, but "1979 is considered it doubtful that Sudan can meet its first payments when they fall due."



President Nimeiry: Libya accused of fomenting unrest.

Despite Sudan's agricultural and mineral potential, it is among the world's 25 poorest countries. Its gross national product has been stagnant since 1979. The chief export, cotton, earning \$180m last year, comes nowhere near covering even the oil bill, which has risen to \$480m. The serious trade deficit has worsened in the past few years, climbing from \$200m in 1972-73 to \$500m for the current fiscal year. President Nimeiry disclosed last night.

Some specialists see even that figure as optimistic, suggesting the deficit is \$700m.

Political crisis is nothing new for the regime which took power in 1969. It has faced down a number of attempted coups, the most serious was 1971 resulting in fierce repression of the Sudanese Communist Party.

The present crisis comes at a time when authorities here claim the country faces Libyan attempts at destabilization. The Sudanese Government has accused Colonel Muammar Gaddafi of Libya of employing a fifth column of thousands of unregistered refugees from Chad, where Libyan troops moved in last year.

Since last July the Government has cracked down mercilessly on the Chadian refugees, in a "cleansing campaign" involving identity checks on nearly 15,000 people in Khartoum and its environs.

Before that, there was a big confrontation with the transport unions at the beginning of the summer, when they staged a lengthy railway strike which disrupted communications in Africa's largest country.

President Nimeiry is reported to have asked ministers to carry on dealing with everyday business until a new Administration can be appointed. — AFP.

## UN drive on pirates who raid boat people

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok, Nov 10

Nobody in his right mind would go to sea in the Gulf of Thailand, the United Nations refugee official said, pointing to new figures on boat piracy.

This year, according to the statistics, 355 Vietnamese refugees have been killed by pirates in the gulf, 522 women refugees have been raped, and another 200 abducted. Only one refugee boat in five escaped the pirates.

Yet there was no sign that the pirates were a deterrent to boat refugees, the official said. More than 13,000 Vietnamese have reached the Thai coast this year.

The statistics are based entirely on the refugees' own reports. "In this circuit of fear," the official said, "reports do tend to be exaggerated, but we believe the overall picture is accurate enough."

Because piracy continues to flourish, the Bangkok office of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees is organizing a new campaign to curb it, at a cost of \$3.6m (about £1.9m) for six months. UNHCR officials say they believe the funds are readily available from foreign governments.

Not all the money will be spent at sea. United Nations officials want the Thai police to take action against known pirate communities in southern Thailand.

In some villages the men are sometimes heard boasting of having a good time with Vietnamese girls, according to international officials, who say the men are fishermen preying on the refugee boats. Many of these communities are too powerful and lawless for the local police.

Their boats are often unregistered and therefore the authorities have no record of them. They go to sea without identification marks, a fact mentioned by most victims of pirate attacks.

With 50,000 fishing boats in the Gulf, over-fishing and related problems like pollution increase piracy as a livelihood for fishermen.

Almost all pirates are fishermen who cannot earn a living legally. Ethnic animosities between Thai, Khmer and Vietnamese exacerbate the problem. The Thai authorities say that about 400 fishermen have been killed this year by other fishermen in the Gulf.

Refugees say some pirates do them more good than harm. After seeing the plight of refugees, some abandon their attack and instead hand over fuel, food and water and send the refugees on their way. Others, after robbing and raping, have been known to give their victims food and other necessities.

Most casualties in the attacks drowned after pirates rammed their boats. However, 25 were individually murdered — shot, stabbed or thrown overboard.

## Letter from Taishan Big business below the sacred mountain

Having weathered the storms of the Red Guard mobs who smashed statues and defaced ancient inscriptions in 1966 and 1967, one of the sites traditionally considered the most sacred in China now faces another invasion — this time by foreign tourists.

German, Italian and Japanese visitors throng the guesthouse at the foot of Mount Tai, and some of them are prepared to face the gruelling climb of more than 3,000 steps to the summit and then spend the next week nursing their aching calves.

Tourism is big business in China these days, and Shandong province, where Mount Tai is located, has some of the most interesting venues — including the birthplace of Confucius — where one may talk to some of his thousands of reputed descendants.

The mountain is famous for its temples and shrines, most of them, dedicated to the ancient Chinese religion of Daoism. It was sacred to the emperors of China, whose official creed was Confucianism but who sometimes had themselves carried up the mountain in state with huge retinues.

The big temple at the foot of Mount Tai was one of the three places in China where it was considered most efficacious for the emperor to offer prayers for his heaven's blessing on the land and people. The temple was one of the historic sites which even the late Chou En-tai failed to seal off before the Red Guards charged in to smash anything thought typical of the feudal past.

But the Red Guards have not enjoyed a monopoly on iconoclasm. Just visible through a tiny peephole in the temple's storeroom at the base, a towering evergreen stands a 10ft-high statue of the late Chairman Mao Tse-tung. It dominated the entrance to the temple during the Cultural Revolution period, which ended with his death in 1976. Now, clearly, nobody knows what to do with it.

At the risk of infringing traditional geomantic ideas about the mountain, the authorities are building a cable-car facility. Porters trot up the mountain with heavy loads of explosives hung on shoulder poles, for use in blasting a way clear.

To cope with the increased numbers of foreign tourists, the provincial government has opened hostels and guesthouses previously used mainly for conferences of officials and party cadres. By Western standards, the comfort is sparse and the buildings poorly finished.

But to the Chinese, these guesthouses seem like the lap of luxury, and the party-controlled media keep admonishing the cadres not to turn conferences into self-indulgent holidays. Chefs

turn out famous Shandong dishes, especially fish, and sell a variety of steamed breads and excellent wholemeal rolls.

Service is another matter. Chinese waiters and waitresses are taught to regard meal service as a disciplined affair, in which the diners at the appointed hour, eat what is put in front of them and are glad of it.

The constant demands of foreign tourists — "bring some salt, give us some butter, take that away and warm it" — can induce, first, astonishment, then surliness and passivity on the part of some waiters. Others, let it be said, regard nothing as too much trouble to keep the foreigners happy.

Addressed employed locally to escort the foreigners often behave like kindergarten teachers — physically pushing their charges higher and higher and fussing like hens when anyone dawdles or straggles.

Most tourists love a market and the rural fairs in Shandong are particularly lively. The visitors' clamorous demands "to stop for photographs and bargaining may embarrass the guides, who have to follow a strict time schedule and who may not have permission to stop along the way. But the eccentric taste of foreigners for the crude products of the countryside is at last being recognized as innocuous.

People in the larger towns no longer mob foreigners out of curiosity, but in the rural areas one can hear the most frank observations about one's personal appearance and general appearance.

Getting around involved definite risks. The roads are surprisingly good, but in the remote provinces, which are used to ferry tourists around become deadly weapons in the hands of many drivers, who have not learnt the most basic elements of road safety, and put all their faith in the horn. I have a couple of small scars from this trip, and generally accidents are much more frequent than is necessary.

Perhaps the most surprising thing about visiting famous places outside Peking is the persistence of local dialects. Shandong does not have a fully-fledged dialect like those of the southern provinces, incomprehensible to anyone from another part of the country — but there are scores, probably hundreds, of sub-dialects, often varying from one village to the next. A local interpreter joins the tour at the provincial capital of Jinan to sort out possible misunderstandings.

One wonders what Confucius — one of the world's earliest philosophers and a pioneer of the standardization of the Chinese language — would have made of it all.

David Bonavia

## Moones view Asia as mediator

From Our Correspondent, Seoul, Nov 10

The Rev Sun Myung Moon, the controversial religious leader whose followers are known as the "Moonies", today revealed that his "historic mission" of his Unification Church was to solve the North-South problem and to use the "yellow race" to mediate between the upper and lower classes of the world.

Mr Moon, aged 61, was addressing more than 800 scholars from 109 different countries, at the opening of the tenth International Conference on the Unity of Sciences here.

Mr Moon said that Korea was emerging as the centre for a new civilization which would block the Soviet Union's global aggression. The countries involved would be Korea, the United States, West Germany, Japan and China. "China would not mind joining together with Korea," he said that Japan, though not wanting to strengthen its own armaments, could produce weapons in China.

He proposed the construction of a "great Asian Highway" running through mainland China, North and South Korea and across Japan and its islands, via underwater tunnels or bridges.

The five-day conference, held for the first time in Korea, the "spiritual homeland" of the Unification Church, is the largest so far and will cost about \$2m (£1m).

It is funded by the Unification Church, though only a few of the participants are church members. Invited guests and their spouses have all expenses paid, free board and lodging in de luxe hotels and tourist excursions, but not air fares. Those delivering a major paper are paid an honorarium of about \$800.

But the participants deny they are along for the ride. "This conference gives us a unique chance to exchange ideas," said one participant.

## Entitlement to sick pay cut

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Fewer low-paid employees will be entitled to the full rate of employers' statutory sick pay of £37 a week under the Social Security and Housing Benefit Bill, published on Monday.

The Bill allows the full rate to be paid to those earning £60 a week or more, instead of £45, as originally indicated. Those earning less than £60 will receive the lower payment of £25 a week, but the Bill requires both amounts to be reviewed annually, in line with prices.

Employers' sick pay will replace, with two flat rate sums, the present National Insurance Sickness Benefit for the first eight weeks of sickness from April 1983. The Bill indicated that the National Insurance Fund would save £385m in a full year from benefit not paid out, but lose £565m because employers would be able to deduct their sick pay payments from their own contributions to the fund.

The Bill will also abolish injury benefit, and make sickness pay subject to tax and National Insurance contributions. The Department of Health and Social Security expects to save 3,000 jobs under the new sick pay scheme, while the Inland Revenue will need 125 more staff.

The Bill disclosed that the new benefit will mean an increase of local authority staff of between 1,500 and 1,600.

## 'Good and Great' list attracts 600

By Peter Hennessy

More than 600 people have written to the Civil Service Department asking for their names to be put on the Government's "List of the Good and Great" since The Times announced in September that Whitehall was keen to hear from individuals interested in public service.

Ministers use the list to select persons to be appointed to committees of inquiry, royal commissions and a wide range of public bodies.

The department is still keen to hear from those with something to offer, requests for self-nomination forms should be addressed to: Director, Public Appointments Unit, Old Admiralty Building, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2AZ.

### BILL TO ENFORCE FOREIGN RULINGS

A Bill to make it easier for judgments by foreign civil courts to be enforceable in the United Kingdom, and vice versa, was published yesterday (Our Legal Correspondent writes). It also simplifies the procedure for reciprocal enforcement of judgments between Scotland, Northern Ireland, and England and Wales.

The Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Bill, which gives effect to an EEC Convention of 1968, also lays down the circumstances in which nationals of one member state can bring a civil action in the courts of another.

Recently, the Greater London Council and local authorities in the West Midlands and South Yorkshire took powers to register practitioners, but in each case an Act of Parliament was needed. The cost has deterred some other local authorities from acting on the new measure which would give all of them the regulatory powers required.

Dr Noag, who yesterday welcomed the decision, said he was preparing a code of practice for acupuncturists.

Later the charity, Task Force working with old people, called for the authorities to work towards free television licences for all pensioners.



## Mitterrand's poll rating rises despite problems

From Jonathan Fenby, Paris, Nov 10

Six months after the election of President Mitterrand, the left-wing government today took stock of its sharp move to the left in a mood which combined continued support for the Socialist administration with a growing awareness of the challenges ahead.

The President's standing in public opinion polls is slightly higher than his election score on May 10. One weekend survey showed that the proportion of people giving him a positive rating had increased from 44 per cent at the end of his first 100 days in office to 53 per cent.

But while the polls bring good news to the Elysée Palace, the Government faces a growing problem over the response to its economic and social reforms.

On the one hand, the disenchantment felt by many French employers shows no sign of lessening. On the other, trade union groups have been adopting an increasingly militant line about what they see as the slow pace of social and economic change.

The conflict between the expectations aroused among Socialist and Communist voters on May 10 and the economic realities of a country trying to boost its business competitiveness was at the bottom of a decision before a Cabinet meeting at the Elysée today.

As the issue was how to prevent the social security system from running a 30,000m francs (£2,857m) deficit next year. Improvements in health care and other social services were among the Socialists' election promises. When left undecided was how they should be financed and how the perennial deficit should be ended.

For the unions, whose support is an essential element of the administration's overall strategy, one thing was clear: workers should not be asked to pay any more. To make them do so would be inconceivable, M. Henri Krasucki, deputy leader of the biggest labour federation, the CGIL, declared. The Communist Party, to whom both M. Krasucki and M. Jack Ralite, the Minister of Health, belong, agreed as did Socialist union leaders.

But French companies, which have been urged by M. Mitterrand to reconquer the domestic market from foreign competitors as well as reinforce their export drive, were insisting that they could not pay any larger contributions without losing competitiveness both at home and abroad.

The Cabinet decision was a compromise: both employers and employees will pay more. The increased burden will

fall rather more heavily on companies than the ministers concerned with industry and the economy had wished. For the unions, the decision had a bitter taste as the administration for whose election they had worked so hard renege on an increase in employees' contributions first proposed but then abandoned by the previous Government.

Speaking shortly before the social security decision was reached, M. François Ceyrac, the chairman of the employers' federation, expressed concern at the "serious and deep lack of understanding" between private firms and the Government six months after M. Mitterrand's election.

While the Government's nationalisation programme and the left-wing pronouncements of Socialist members of Parliament continue to antagonise business leaders, their attitude towards the Mitterrand administration is also strongly affected by their uncertainty where the French economy is heading, and what their place in it will be a year after the left's electoral victory.

M. Mitterrand and M. Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, insist on the importance of the role of small and medium-sized firms in the reflationary expansion they plan for France. But even M. Mauroy, who has built up a reputation for pragmatism in the past six months, occasionally lets fall remarks calculated to undermine the cooperative spirit reached by the Government.

On a provincial tour yesterday, he sounded a warning that if the Government did not receive a satisfactory response to its attempt to cut unemployment by voluntary means, we will be tempted to take measures which will obviously be stiffer, that is to say, enforced retirement.

French newspapers, reviewing the President's first six months today, emphasised the changes that have been introduced through such measures as decentralisation, nationalisation, abolition of the death penalty, increases in the minimum industrial wage and M. Mitterrand's strong presence in international affairs.

Underlying these comments was an awareness of the differences between the fundamental philosophies of the left and its defeated opponents on the right.

For *Le Monde*, the confrontation was likely to go on until the changes now being introduced had taken root in the country's life. For the generally pro-Socialist *Le Matin*, on the other hand, the Government would do well to reflect that it could not govern France alone.

## Gulf between Mugabe and minorities is widening

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, Nov 10

Mr Robert Mugabe completed his tour of Zimbabwe's rural areas at the weekend in a fashion which may have produced the desired effect of restoring the popularity of his administration to its previous level among the majority, but has done nothing to repair a widening estrangement from minorities.

The Prime Minister wound up the last of the series of rallies which started in August with probably the most scathing public attack he has yet made on the country's whites. Only days before he had again accused opposition leaders—another pointer to plotting against the Government.

The theme of Mr Mugabe's speeches has become familiar over recent weeks, the targets generally being Mr Ian Smith's Republican Front and Bishop Abel Muzorewa and his supporters.

In Belgrade last night, on his tour of Eastern Europe, he repeated his allegation that South Africa was intending to destabilise Zimbabwe by training 5,000 former Muzorewa auxiliaries in sabotage.

These are statements which have been made before, but Mr Mugabe's tone is sharper, notably at a rally attended by up to 40,000 in Gwelo at the weekend.

According to press reports which have been denied by the Prime Minister's Office he launched into a tirade against white employers, accusing them of abusing their black workers and profiting by "sucking their blood like vampires". Further comment was stirred by his reported encouragement of blacks to strike whites who used racially insulting language.

"From now on I give you my permission to hit every one who calls you a kaffir," he said. "But do not beat the innocent ones; only those who ill-treat you."

The Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries responded that Mr Mugabe's apparent condonation of violence could result in a "dramatic deterioration in industrial relations". Mr Geoffrey Klockow, chair-

man of the Republican Front, said that those whites who had been unable to live under a black government had already left the country and those who remained were committed to its development. "It is our country as much as it is for everyone," he said.

Such politically popular swings by the Prime Minister at the whites may be one way of distracting the majority from their grievances, but it does not sit well with his image as a moderate conciliator.

That image would appear to have taken something of a bruising, although in speaking to other constituencies—for example the white farmers he addressed in Karoi last week—the Prime Minister is his usual restrained self. Then he was generous in his praise of the farmers' accomplishments while rebuking them in mild terms for their treatment of workers.

The strong impression remains that government politicians are tailoring their speeches according to the audience. That has been part of Mr Mugabe's delicate balancing act since independence, and if the results sound less diplomatic now it is because Mr Mugabe appears to believe that the ruling Zanu (PF) party has lost touch with its grass roots.

The concern that lies behind that belief is that the majority are expecting more than any government in the circumstances would be able to give—may in turn account for some of the wilder swings at Bishop Muzorewa and other black politicians who draw their support from the same areas as Zanu (PF).

In spite of Mr Mugabe's speeches, which are seen by some as indications that he is genuinely worried about his position, there can be few doubts that the majority have felt sufficiently secure to spend less time in their capitals than away from them. Since embarking on the meet-the-people tours the Prime Minister has also made lengthy visits to Scandinavia, Australia and now Eastern Europe.

## EEC seal ban sought

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Nov 10

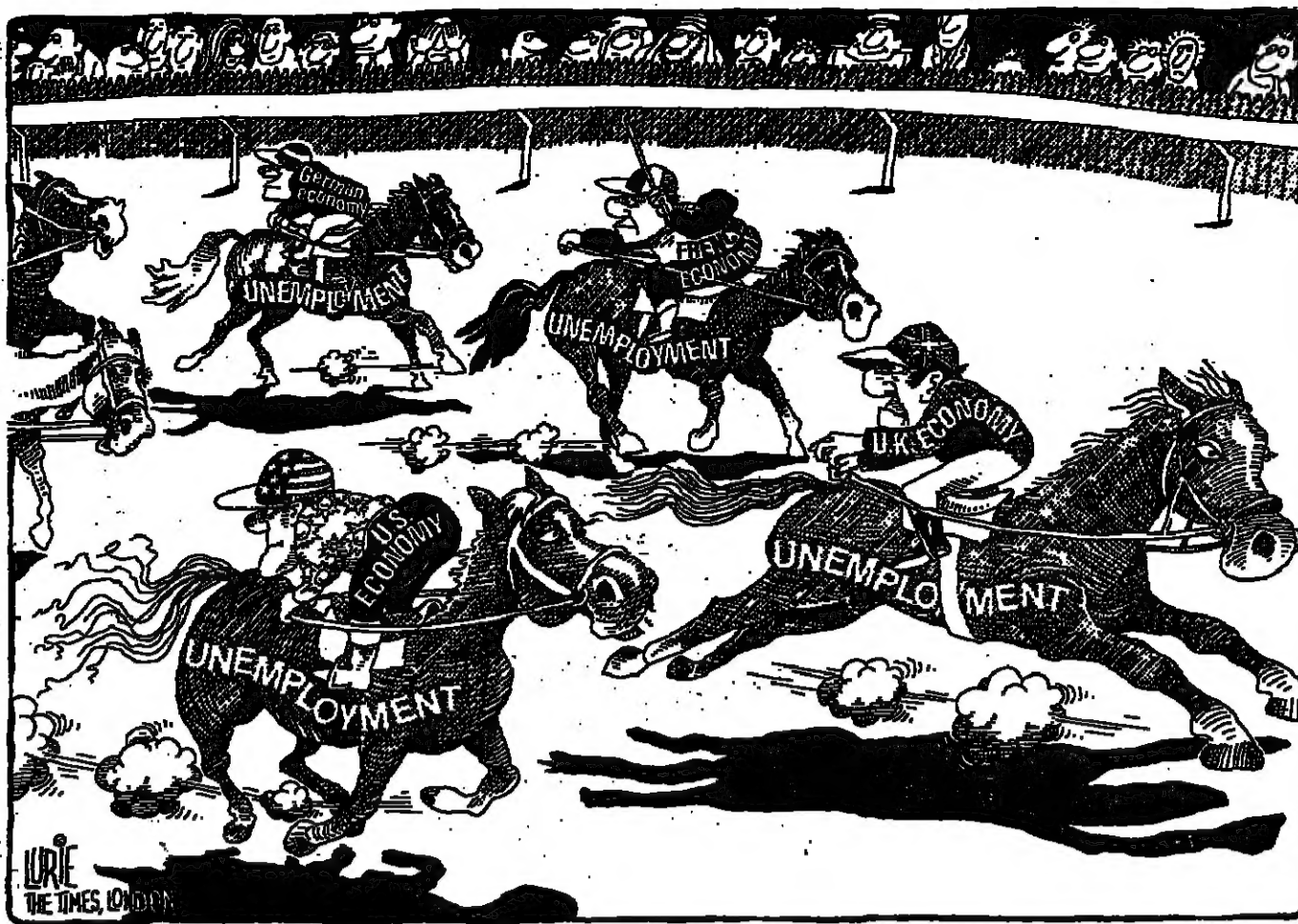
A ban on the import of all products derived from seals into the EEC is being recommended by the European Parliament's environment committee.

The committee hopes that the ban, if agreed by Parliament next year, would go a long way towards making the trade in seal skins less profitable.

The 10 members of the environment committee gave

unanimous support to the recommendation at their meeting today after studying a report on the danger to seals caused by indiscriminate killing which had been prepared by Mrs Hanna Maij-Weggen, a Dutch MEP.

According to Mr Barry Seal, the Labour MEP for Yorkshire, West, who has drawn up a report on trade in endangered species, seal imports into the Community at the moment are worth about £20m a year.



## Affair in Peking raises a storm

From Our Correspondent Paris, Nov. 10

Relations between France and China have been unexpectedly shaken by the repercussions of a romance between a French diplomat in Peking and a young Chinese woman artist who was sentenced yesterday to two years in a reeducation camp for staying in his room and for "incitement to debauchery".

So serious has the matter been that the French Foreign Minister, M. Michel Jobert, the Foreign Trade Minister, who told Chinese leaders that if he had known the conditions in which his visit would take place he would never have gone to China.

M. Claude Cheysson, the Foreign Minister, said tonight: "Since French opinion is concerned, Franco-Chinese relations are affected. France had made a number of approaches to the Chinese authorities about the case in recent weeks expressing its hope that the artist would be allowed to leave China to join her diplomat fiancée abroad and to marry him."

The diplomat, M. Emmanuel Bellefroid, aged 39, who had been in Peking for six years, met the artist, Li Shuang, aged 25, about a year ago and they subsequently became engaged. French sources said the Chinese authorities initially indicated that Li Shuang, known as a non-conformist artist, would be allowed to marry M. Bellefroid; but in September, shortly before the date set for the wedding, she was arrested.

News of the sentence became known after M. Jobert arrived in Peking, and discussions of the case took up most of his time there, instead of the scheduled programme on trade and economic cooperation. French sources said the discussions were held in an atmosphere of tension and mutual incomprehension.

□ Peking: Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, accused the diplomat of having "financed, aided and served as an intermediary" between Chinese dissident circles and abroad, and told Mr Jobert as much (AFP and Reuters reports).

He made it clear at their meeting yesterday that the case "would be settled according to Chinese law" and that "it concerned only China".

Living together before marriage is frowned on in China and to do so with a foreigner is considered especially scandalous.

### IN BRIEF

#### 90 arrested for looting

Antananarivo. Madagascar radio reported that police had arrested 90 looters following two days of riots and widespread looting. The rioting broke out on Sunday after the Pina football team beat the provincial team Fortior in the national championships.

#### Population warning

Cape Town.—Enforced birth control might have to be applied in South Africa by future generations, unless all population groups voluntarily adopted family planning measures. Dr Johan de Beer, Director-General of Health, Welfare and Pensions, told the President's Council, a multi-racial government advisory body.

#### 'Extinct' bird found

Washington.—The yellow-fronted bowerbird, a colourful tropical bird not seen for 85 years and thought to be extinct, has been found in New Guinea, the National Geographic Society announced.

#### Snow in Bulgaria

Vienna.—Heavy snow and strong winds caused severe damage in Bulgaria and more than 100 towns and villages reported electricity and water supplies cut, the official BTA news agency said.

## Purge in Turkish radio and TV

From Sinan Fisek, Ankara, Nov 10

The Turkish Government yesterday carried out a purge at the radio and television organization, TRT, which has shocked journalists here.

More than 100 employees—reporters, producers and technicians known for their "progressive" views—have been named over the past two days to Government posts largely unconnected with their true professions. TRT employees have civil servant status, so the move was completely legal.

Mr Okay Arayici, formerly head of the radio cultural programmes and a successful playwright, was transferred to a post at the Istanbul Port Authority.

Mr Cetin Oner, a former actor-director turned producer of television dramas, will now be a civil servant at the Natural

Disasters Department of the Ministry of Housing and Reconstruction.

Mr Selim Altan, a journalist for more than 20 years who joined TRT as a reporter a few years ago, was transferred to a post at the legal department of the Ministry of Public Works. Miss Feryal Oksay, a television reporter, will work at the regional office of the Forestry Department in Amasya, an northern Turkey.

Mr Mustafa Sehin and Mr Okan Pehl, two television cameramen, were posted respectively to the State Fisheries Department in Trabzon, on the Black Sea coast, and to the Civil Aviation Department of the Ministry of Transport.

These purges signify a loss of professional status for the

employees and a big reduction in salary. They will have to give back, along with their press cards, the remainder for November of a special bonus they received every month and which amounted to a 60 per cent increase on their basic salaries. They will not be paid these bonuses in their new jobs.

Observers speculated that many of them would rather resign than accept the new postings. This was probably the intention of the Government.

Rumours circulating in TRT say that as many as 1,000 of the organization's 7,000 employees will be involved in eventual purges. One source reported that more than 250 others would be named to different posts within TRT, and about 40 would be simply fired in the near future.

## El Salvador leaders deny guerrillas are winning civil war

From Our Correspondent, New York, Nov 10

President José Napoleón Duarte of El Salvador says the left-wing guerrillas are in retreat and the civil war can be won by the Government, in spite of evidence to the contrary.

Señor Duarte, in an interview at his home with *The New York Times*, said the guerrillas were losing support and military strength. The necessary ingredients for defeating them were increased economic aid and a doubling in strength of the Army.

More military supplies were needed to replace those being used rapidly in increased fighting this year and more technical advisers to help the armed forces would be welcomed. He ruled out direct military help from neighbouring Guatemala and Honduras, or from any other country: "We have to solve our problems internally."

Argentina is reported to have offered fighting units and the military commands of Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador have been conferring.

The strength of El Salvador's armed forces stands at 20,000 but up to 50,000 are needed to counter the estimated 4,000 guerrillas, Señor Duarte claims. This is based on the 10 to one ration developed by the British during the communist insurgency in Malaya in the 1950s.

Colonel José Guillermo García, his Defence Minister, has told a press conference in Washington that the armed forces were in control of El Salvador. The aim of these claims is to counter assertions by Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State, that there is stalemate in the civil war. Observers claim that Mr Haig's assessment is at best

optimistic about the regime's position.

The *Washington Post*, in a special report today, said the Army has lost control of a quarter of El Salvador's territory to the guerrillas. The Army was in imminent danger of losing land access to nearly half the country if the rebels continued a bridge demolition campaign.

The Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN) claims to have destroyed 32 bridges this year, isolating towns and parts of provinces where the guerrillas have freer reign and have set up local governments. Most spectacular of the sabotage was the destruction of the country's largest bridge, the De Oro over the Lempa river, 48 miles from San Salvador. Señor Duarte and Colonel García dismissed this as an act of terrorism that could have been accomplished by any small group of trained guerrillas.

Colonel García said: "There has been an increase in terrorism in recent months, isolated but coordinated terrorist attacks. They create an appearance of success." When guerrillas saw they could not win militarily, they shifted to a campaign to destroy the country economically by blowing up bridges, factories and power stations.

The United Nations Human Rights Commission issued a report yesterday blaming left-wing guerrillas, right-wing death squads and Government security forces for the wholesale killings in El Salvador.

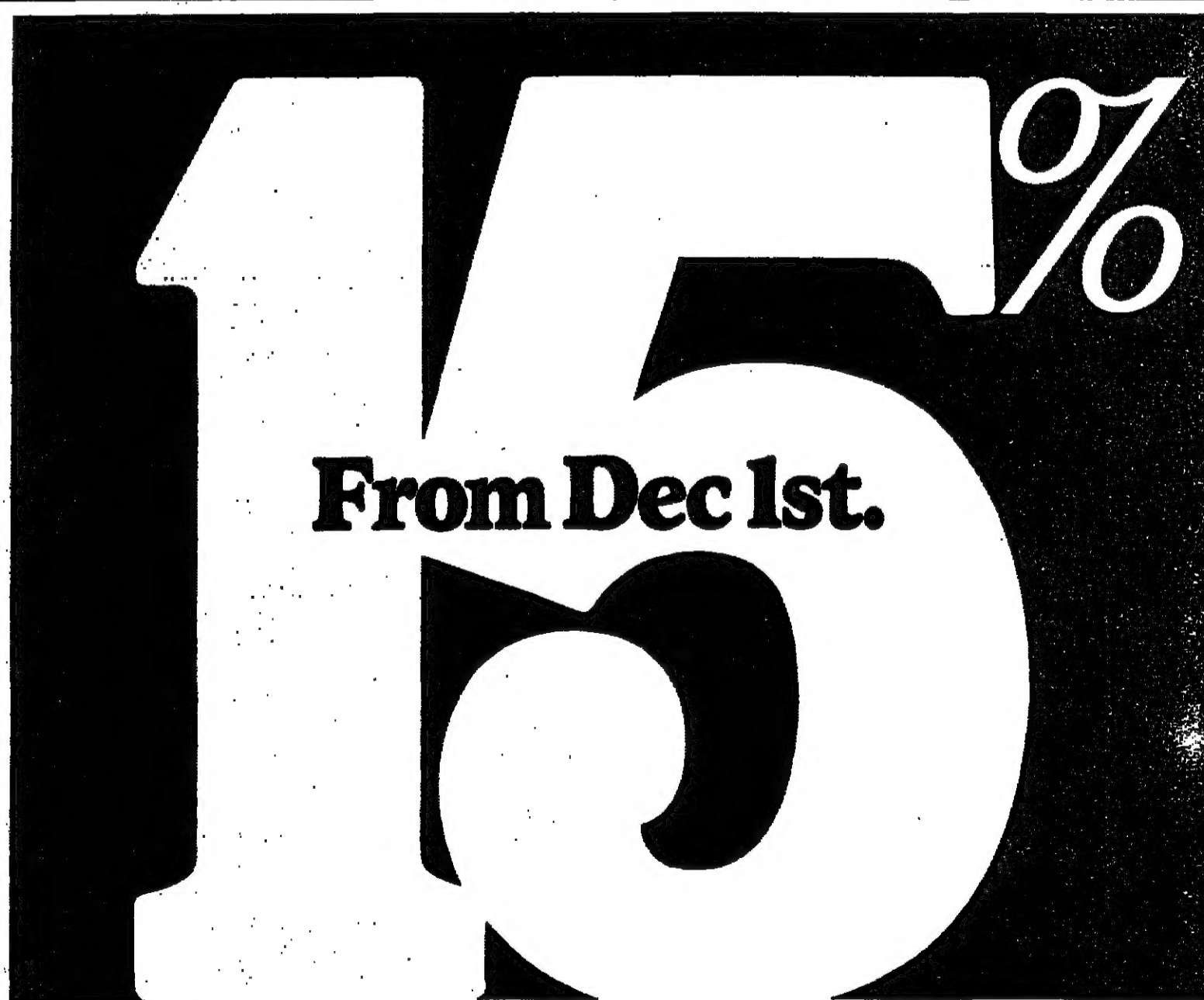
The report said it was impossible to say which faction was most to blame but it accused the civilian-military junta under Señor Duarte of passivity and inactivity in the face of the violence.

### Shuttle countdown

Washington.—The countdown for the second launch of the space shuttle Columbia was started again with great hopes that this time nothing would prevent a launch early on Thursday.

### Government sought

Brussels.—King Baudouin met three key politicians separately to see how a new Belgian Government can be formed taking into account the political shifts that occurred in last Sunday's national elections.



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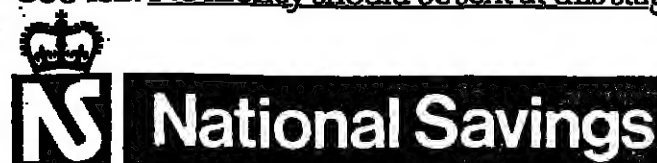
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## Gulf leaders seek to coordinate defence policies

From Edward Mortimer, Riyadh, Nov 10

Defence cooperation and relations with the United States are the issues likely to dominate the summit meeting of six Arab Gulf states which was opened here tonight by King Khalid of Saudi Arabia.

The meeting brings together the six traditional rulers who between them control the Gulf's south-western shore. It is six months since they met at Abu Dhabi to form the Gulf Cooperation Council. Under whose charter such summits are to be a regular twice-yearly occasion.

The intervening period has seen a series of ministerial meetings, devoted mainly to economic cooperation but dealing also with political questions, and a change of chief of staff to consider common defence policies.

Saudi Arabia is by far the largest and most powerful of the states involved, the others being Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates. The formation of the council, with its headquarters and secretariat in Riyadh, shows a greater willingness than in the past, on the part of the smaller Gulf states, to accept Saudi leadership.

Old jealousies and rivalries have been partly overcome by common fears since the Islamic revolution which three years ago transformed Iran, on the other side of the Gulf, from a somewhat officious policeman of Western interests into an exponent, and would-be exporter, of Islamic revolution.

The threat was sharpened last year when war broke out between Iraq and Iran. The Arab Gulf states sympathized with Iraq, but feared that Iran would retaliate against them. This was what prompted Saudi Arabia's demand for an Awacs surveillance aircraft. Recent Iranian attacks on oil installations in Kuwait served as a reminder that Awacs could have a role to play in the defence of the Gulf as a whole.

At the same time Iraq's inability to bring the war to a successful or even dignified conclusion has prevented it from pursuing its own claims to leadership of the Arab

world and left the field free for the Saudis.

The Gulf states are anxious to move towards a common market and even a common currency, and especially to coordinate their industrial development so as to avoid uneconomic duplication of investment.

This is a major, but easier said than done, but the ministers and experts have been working on it with a seriousness which has surprised some observers.

Defence cooperation is a more sensitive issue since it inevitably raises the question of alignment with foreign powers, and specifically with the United States. The rulers of Kuwait are firm believers in a non-aligned foreign policy, while those of the other states are in varying degrees pro-Western.

The most unambiguously pro-Western is Sultan Qaboos bin Said of Oman, who last year agreed to give American forces access to his country's ports and airfields in the event of an emergency in the region.

Oman is the only Gulf state participating in the American Operation Brightstar exercises which have just begun. But last week it reduced the level of its participation, which will now involve only a brief and largely symbolic landing of United States marines.

This was no doubt a gesture intended to reassure Arab opinion and improve the chances that the summit will adopt Oman's views, offered in a working paper, on the need for close coordination of security and standardization of defence equipment.

Iranian criticism of the Awacs deal provoked scathing editorials in the Saudi press yesterday, accusing Iran of a lack of sincerity in its demand for Awacs surveillance aircraft.

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## Truth is veiled in a verbal battle

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, Nov 10

Within one day of Israel's latest verbal barrage against the Palestine Liberation Organisation, claiming that the PLO had broken the terms of the ceasefire in southern Lebanon — the Palestinians have fired off a few shots of their own. Both sides have fallen a little short of the truth.

Mr Yasser Arafat, the PLO chairman, claimed at a press conference in Beirut that Israeli military activity has increased along the south Lebanese border and that Israel was planning a major attack on Palestinian guerrilla positions.

He said that four Israeli brigades were massed along the frontier in preparation for a ground assault into Lebanon. For his part, Mr Ariel Sharon, the Israeli Defence Minister, alleged that Palestinian guerrillas had been building up their military supplies in southern Lebanon and now possessed up to 270 artillery pieces, 60 tanks and 100 troop carriers.

The fact that almost every United Nations contingent in southern Lebanon is on the lowest scale of alert suggests that Mr Sharon and Mr Arafat are exaggerating the danger of another conflict in the south of the country.

There are, in fact, no substantiated reports of Israeli military manoeuvres along Israel's northern border. Nor are there any signs of increased Israeli military traffic in Major Saad Haddad's militia enclave, while in the Palestinian-controlled area of southern Lebanon, there is scarcely a tank to be seen.

Indeed, the only tanks in the hands of the PLO are vintage Soviet-built T34 vehicles which should really be in a military museum. Although the PLO are probably gifts from Syria, they appear to have started their active career more than two decades ago in the Indian Army.

The PLO, however, have recently acquired more Katyusha rockets, launched privately by United Nations officials and admitted with less discretion by Palestinian officers in southern Lebanon.

The Katyushas caused considerable damage in northern Israel towards the ceasefire line enforced last July. A number of new heavy machine guns — apparently arriving here from Libya by way of Syria — have also appeared in the south.

Mr Sharon was correct in suggesting that the Palestinians were increasing their fortifications north of the United Nations lines in Lebanon. PLO men have been digging in for the winter north of the Litani River, building earth revetments for their vehicles and constructing a network of tunnels. The Palestinian-controlled area inside the Dutch battalion of the United Nations force.

But Mr Sharon neglected to mention that Major Haddad's Israeli-supplied militia have also been reinforcing their gun positions south of the United Nations lines and building a line of earthen bunkers, apparently for tanks, just outside the Major's "capital" of Marjayoun.

Mr Sharon also failed to point out that Israeli regular troops have been building concrete shelters beside the radar station that they maintain four miles inside southern Lebanon.

Mr Arafat, however, has not chosen to recall that many of the recent violations inside the United Nations territory were the work of guerrillas.

The PLO has failed to provide the men responsible for an assassination attempt on the United Nations deputy commander last month. The culprits are believed to have been members of the Muslim nationalist Amal Movement.

It is a sign of the times that a United Nations officer could this week describe the present state of affairs as "about the quietest we can ever remember in southern Lebanon".



## US moves troops into Egypt for war games

From Our Correspondent, Cairo, Nov

Units of the United States Army and Air Force began to arrive in Egypt today to take part in the largest manoeuvres here of the American rapid deployment force. The exercise will involve Egyptian troops and

about 4,000 Americans and is designed to test the United States ability to protect its interests in the Middle East.

Operation Brightstar 82, the exercise is called, will start next week as parallel manoeuvres take place in Sudan, Somalia and Oman, making up the first multinational tactical test faced by the rapid deployment force.

An American military spokesman said that units of the 24th Infantry started arriving in CS and C141 transport aircraft and more troops, equipment and logistics experts will arrive later.

About 350 Army, Navy and Air Force personnel will

conduct manoeuvres with Sudanese troops while in Somalia another 300 will carry out logistics training operations at Berbera. In Oman American Navy and Marine forces, operating in the Indian Ocean, will work with the Sultan of Oman's forces.

Last year's operation, called Brightstar 81, was confined to Egypt, involved about 1,400 men and, unlike this year, did not include the command structure of the rapid deployment force. Equipment to be tested during the American's month-long stay includes A-10 tanks, M113 armoured personnel carriers, helicopters and artillery.

## Water dispute excluded from Cairo talks on autonomy

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, Nov 10

When Israeli and Egyptian Ministers meet in Cairo tomorrow in their latest attempt to reach agreement on Palestinian autonomy, one of the key questions which will be deliberately excluded from detailed discussion is control of the already over-exploited water resources in the said 2,200 square miles of the occupied West Bank.

It is because the differences over the politics of water are so fundamental that they are being by-passed. Both sides have decided to postpone argument on problems where disagreement is greatest in an effort to reach at least limited agreement on the formation of an elected autonomy council.

Although this new approach may at last succeed in breaking the 17-month deadlock, it has not inspired international confidence that the negotiations can produce a sufficiently wide-ranging form of self-rule either to shore up the Camp David processor to win cooperation from the 700,000 West Bank Palestinians.

Water has been a divisive issue in the area since the time of King Solomon and the Quarrelling tribes of Israel. At the root of the present dispute is the premise that whoever controls the West Bank's water will control the West Bank.

Israel's uncompromising stand insisting that the resource remains entirely under Israeli jurisdiction — is reinforced by fears that control were ever relinquished, the Palestinians could not only drive out Jewish settlers by cutting off their water, but also wreak havoc to the country's national water supply.

The Government's concern arises from the little known fact that Israel draws one third of its annual water consumption of 1,600 million cubic metres of water from the underground reserves of the occupied Jordanian territory.

Hydrologists have shown that any large-scale Palestinian drilling on the western slopes of Samaria could destroy this vital source of supply by rendering it irreversibly saline.

The essential role played by West Bank water in boosting supply inside Israel's pre-1967 borders is understood to be one of the main factors in the shared determination of both the Government and the Labour Opposition that the entire West Bank should never again be handed back into Arab hands.

Western diplomats point out that this argument does not take into account that the autonomous Palestinians or even a demilitarized Palestinian state would be presumed to be at peace with Israel. It also assumes that the Palestinians would be prepared deliberately to salinate their own main water supply.

Explaining the Israeli stand that the water supply in the region between the Mediterranean sea and the Jordan river is interdependent Mr Yacov Vardi, a leading Israeli hydrologist, said: "You have to look at the whole area like one ship. It is impossible to drill holes and then hope that some of the cabins will not sink".

By an irony of history, the West Bank is an area where semi-desert conditions prevail although it is part of a region once known as the Fertile Crescent. "It is one of those places where water is more precious than oil. An American voluntary worker based in Jerusalem explained.

"Although the subject is not widely discussed, it is capable of producing a gut reaction as strong as anything in the Arab-Israeli conflict."

Disputes with the Arabs over water go back for years. The most drastic example came in 1964 when Israel diverted the Jordan river as part of a national irrigation plan and the Arab states threatened to turn away the water at its source, which could have ruined Israel.

In the 1967 war, Israel made certain that it brought the Jordan river's source in Syria under its control. This partly explains its continuing reluctance to give up the Golan Heights.

Although water has long been one of the most sensitive aspects of Israel's 14-year occupation of the West Bank, it only came to the fore internationally in 1979. In that year, foreign television teams descended on the Arab village of El Auja to film its drought-stricken banana plantations and contrast them with shots of a crowded swimming pool at an Israeli kibbutz near by.

At that village deep-bore Israeli drillings were blamed by Palestinians for drying up a spring with an annual average outflow of 11 million cubic metres of sweet water.

The military government (which controls all water matters in the West Bank) argued that the drying up of the spring had nothing to do with the Israeli drillings, and eventually appeared to be justified when the spring began to flow again in abundance.

Statistics supplied to The Times this week by Tahal, the Israeli water planning corporation, go a long way towards explaining Palestinian bitterness over the water question. The 700,000 West Bank Arabs now consume between 110 million and 120 million cubic metres of water a year, while only 20,000 Jewish settlers consume about 22 million cubic metres — a figure which is rising as numbers expand.

Mr Ibrahim Matar, an Arab agricultural expert said: "The Israelis are in absolute control of our water resources. Every well is forcibly equipped with a meter and consumption artificially pegged to the level in 1976."

As with the question of land, to which it is closely related, the question of water in the West Bank lies at the heart of the Israeli concept of Palestinian autonomy. The right-wing Government of Mr Menachem Begin is determined never to concede the control over during the 1967 war, while the Egyptians remain adamant that the concept of "full autonomy" must involve at least some control of the main natural resource.

## Door left open to negotiations

## Lévesque denounces Ottawa accord

From John Best, Ottawa, Nov 10

The Quebec Government has decided against calling an early referendum on provincial election over last week's constitutional settlement between the other nine Canadian provinces and the Federal Government.

Mr René Lévesque, the Premier of Quebec, addressing the Quebec Legislative Assembly yesterday said, however, that both options remain under study.

"We will continue to reflect," he said. Mr Lévesque again denounced the new federal-provincial agreement, which is a formula for bringing home the British North America Act of 1867 from Westminster.

"Never will we tolerate the effect of this knife-wound in the fabric of our collective existence," he told legislators of the predominantly French-speaking province.

The signatories to the agreement had made "a Canada without Quebec, a Canada from which Quebec would be excluded though it would be bound hand and foot".

Mr Lévesque appeared to reject the Federal Government's offer of negotiations to try to remove Quebec's objections to the accord, which concerns both the amending formula and the bill of rights to be entrenched in Canada's new constitution.

"There is no question of accepting the Ottawa accord," he said, adding that "before anything" the Federal Government would have to renounce all the provisions in the accord which diminish Quebec's rights.

But Mr Lévesque may have left the door to negotiations open just a little. "He didn't say no in plain terms," commented Mr Claude Ryan, the Quebec Liberal Opposition leader.

In Ottawa, Mr Jean Chrétien, the Federal Justice Minister, said the Government would continue to explore ways of bringing Quebec into the agreement. It is likely, therefore, that it will be some time before the Government's revised constitutional resolution is cleared through Parliament and is sent to Westminster.

## Russia uses spy claim to justify sub incident

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, Nov 10

The Russians today countered the outcry over the submarine incident by suggesting that Soviet territory to be used for secret electronic espionage against the Soviet Union.

A Tass report from Stockholm, without making any mention of the recent grounding of the submarine near the Karlskrona naval base, said Swedish military intelligence had long been spying on the Soviet Union in close cooperation with Nato intelligence services.

Quoting a Swedish journal Pax, Tass said the United States had set up a network of listening posts and communications stations in Denmark and Norway in the 1960s and a similar station was located on Lovö Island, six miles from Stockholm.

"It makes it possible to listen in to areas deep in Soviet territory, determine the location of military bases, control and monitor the flights of aircraft," Tass said. The station was linked to a Nato network of similar posts that were directed against Communist countries.

The brief Tass report is clearly an attempt to justify to members of the Soviet public, who may have heard from foreign radio broadcasts about the submarine dispute, what is apparently presented as a legitimate action in defending Soviet security.

Stockholm: Sweden reacted angrily today to claims by a former Soviet Army colonel, Daniel Procktor, that radiation detected on board the Soviet submarine came from a luminous watch. He was speaking at a peace meeting in Oslo (Our Correspondent writes).

One of the submarine would not have access to nuclear weapons in peacetime," said Colonel Procktor, who now heads a Moscow research institute studying international relations and the world economy. He has been invited to Oslo by the Norwegian Peace Committee.

In Stockholm, Mr Ola Ullsten, the Swedish Foreign Minister, responded: "The Russians had the opportunity to let us check the radiation. They refused. They have no credibility left."

A Defence Ministry spokesman said the radiation was from at least a kilogramme (2.2lb) of Uranium 238.

Madrid: The head of the Swedish delegation to the European security review conference said the submarine was discovered in an intentional violation of Swedish territory, on the very day the conference resumed its work after a recess "in order to finish its important task of restoring confidence in Europe" (Harry Debilius writes). There was there "for the purpose of carrying on illegal activities", Mr Carl Rappe said.

"It goes without saying that this was a flagrant violation of the Helsinki Accords," he said.

Reuter, AP

## Korchnoi resigns fourteenth game

Merano, Nov 10 — Anatoly Karpov won the fourteenth game in his defence of the world chess title today when Viktor Korchnoi, the challenger, resigned before the over-night adjournment.

Korchnoi, playing Black, had sealed his forty-sixth move but resigned without playing it, giving Karpov a 5-2 lead in the series, one win from retention of the championship.

Despite Karpov's imposing lead, Korchnoi's chief spokesman, Mr Edward Steiner, insisted he could still turn the match around.

"We will fight. We believe ever now the match is far away from the end," Mr Steiner said. However, another of his seconds said: "The prevailing mood in the camp is one of gloom."

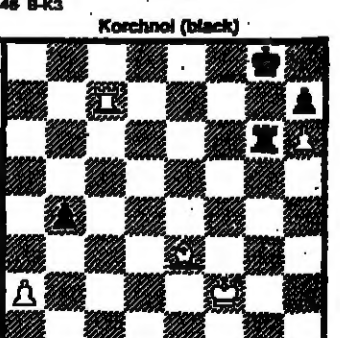
Experts said Korchnoi might postpone the fifteenth game, which is due on Thursday. Each man has used up two of the three time-outs allowed under the championship rules. The would put the game off until Saturday. In any case, Korchnoi will be playing white, which gives him a slight advantage since white moves first.

At the start of yesterday's game Karpov, aged 30, arrived a few minutes after Korchnoi, who had won the thirteenth. Karpov was dressed in a new

grey suit conforming with his habit of wearing a new outfit after losing a game.

Opening Ray Lopez

1 P-K4	2 N-K3	3 B-K3	4 B-K3	5 P-K3	6 P-K3	7 P-K3	8 P-K3	9 P-K3	10 P-K3	11 P-K3	12 P-K3	13 P-K3	14 P-K3	15 P-K3	16 P-K3	17 P-K3	18 P-K3	19 P-K3	20 P-K3	21 P-K3	22 P-K3	23 P-K3	24 P-K3	25 P-K3	26 P-K3	27 P-K3	28 P-K3	29 P-K3	30 P-K3	31 P-K3	32 P-K3	33 P-K3	34 P-K3	35 P-K3	36 P-K3	37 P-K3	38 P-K3	39 P-K3	40 P-K3	41 P-K3	42 P-K3	43 P-K3	44 P-K3	45 P-K3	46 P-K3	47 P-K3	48 P-K3
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## Landslide win in Trinidad

Port of Spain, Trinidad, Nov 10 — The ruling People's National Movement (PNM) won a landslide victory in yesterday's general election in Trinidad and Tobago, according to the latest batch of results announced early today.

There was a carnival atmosphere through the night as supporters of Mr George Chambers, the Prime Minister, danced in the streets of Port of Spain.

The PNM was assured of at least 26 seats in the 36-member House of Representatives, it had 24 last time. It will be the sixth successive term of office for the PNM, which has

ruled the country for 25 years.

Mr Karl Hudson-Phillips, of the Organization for National Reconstruction, who had been named as Mr Chambers's biggest threat, suffered a humiliating rejection. He said the result of the poll was not a true reflection of the mood of the country and it was unlikely that the PNM would survive in power for another five years.

Mr Chambers scored an easy victory in his St Ann's East constituency. His tally of just over 8,400 votes was the highest in the poll.

## Tel Aviv silent on 'airspace violation'

From Our Own Correspondent, Jerusalem, Nov 10

The Israeli Government today maintained an official silence over the claim by Saudi Arabia that Israeli jets yesterday violated Saudi airspace and returned to their base after being intercepted by Saudi fighters.

A senior Foreign Ministry official only made a brief assertion that Israel never comments on the operational whereabouts of its air force, inside or outside the country. But Western observers believe that Israeli aircraft have made frequent training and reconnaissance flights over parts of Saudi Arabia in recent years.

Private consultations were held today between Israeli officials and diplomats from the American Embassy in Tel Aviv.

The Americans are acutely aware that the overflight controversy has come to a head at a time when tension between Israel and Saudi Arabia is high, both because of the recent Senate vote in favour of the Awacs surveillance aircraft sale and bitter Israeli opposition to the eight-point peace proposal of Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

While the Israeli Government refused to talk publicly about the incident, it was noted that the timing of the reported overflights had coincided almost exactly with a press conference yesterday at which Mr Ariel Sharon, the Defence Minister, issued a detailed attack against Saudi Arabia. He said that it would now be treated "exactly as any other hostile confrontation state". During the

## HURD WILL DISCUSS PEACE PLAN

Growing diplomatic confusion over the European Community's proposed contribution to the Sinai peacekeeping force will be among the main topics during the visit to Washington of Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

The Middle East is among Mr Hurd's special responsibilities.

## Israel fetters academics amid West Bank unrest

From Our Own Correspondent, Jerusalem, Nov 10

Several senior Palestinian academics in the occupied West Bank have had their movements restricted by Israeli authorities as widespread Arab unrest in the region continued for the eighth consecutive day.

Dr Gabir Barakat, one of two vice-presidents of Bir Zeit University, told me tonight that he and four other members of the university council had been placed under temporary town arrest. Dr Izzat Ghannam, the university's vice-president for financial and administrative affairs, has been placed under house arrest for three days.

The moves come after last week's indefinite closure of Bir Zeit, the largest Arab campus in the West Bank, with a student complement of 2,000 and some 300 teaching staff.

Students and staff from the university have begun a campaign to try to bring international academic pressure to persuade Israel to reopen the campus, which has been the scene of anti-Israeli demonstrations.

Israel radio reported that detention orders had also been imposed on other prominent West Bankers, including the editor of the left-wing newspaper, *El Shaab*, and a councillor from the town of El Bira. Yesterday the Israeli censor imposed a 10-day ban on the radical Arab daily *Al Fair*.

Elsewhere, an almost total commercial strike in annexed East Jerusalem continued for its second day, with shops and schools closed. Israeli security forces were patrolling the area in force and two youths were arrested when they tried to unfurl a Palestinian flag.

The strike and other demonstrations—including the burning of tyres at the Kalandia refugee camp—were all protests at Israel's decision to split the military and civilian administration.

Mr Ariel Sharon, the Defence Minister, gave a warning yesterday that tougher Israeli measures would be taken in the West Bank against those in sympathy with terrorist organizations.

"A new era" would begin for the peaceful population.

AL-MUSLIMUN  
The Muslim League  
The Muslim League is a voluntary organization for the promotion of the interests of Muslims in the United Kingdom and abroad. It is a non-political, non-sectarian organization and is open to all Muslims of all ages and of all social and economic classes. The League is a member of the Council of Islamic Organizations in the United Kingdom and is a member of the Muslim World League. The League is a member of the Muslim World League and is a member of the Muslim World League. The League is a member of the Muslim World League and is a member of the Muslim World League.

Adequate water supply is a matter of life and death in Samaria, where labourer is working in a field



Chest transplants and food poisoning / political advisers and the politics of planning

## Why new hearts are not enough

Transplants of virtually the entire contents of the chest — the heart, both lungs and the large blood vessels that connect them — are now being performed at the Stanford Medical Centre in California. Three men and one woman have received the combined transplants. One man died soon after the operation because of complications from previous open heart surgery but the other three patients were described last week at a medical conference in New York as making remarkable progress, just eight months, six months and one month after their operations.

The news is exciting not just because lung transplants have not previously been successfully performed but because the Stanford heart transplant programme, directed by Professor Norman Shumway, is highly respected within the profession, and Shumway is not given to making precipitate claims of success for the sake of publicity. He is the surgeon who taught Christian Barnard how to perform heart transplants but who himself refused to do the operation until he had achieved specific experimental goals in the control of tissue rejection.

The combined transplants are being used to help patients whose lungs have been damaged by their heart disease and it offers them a remarkable improvement in the quality of their lives. One of the Stanford patients had spent all of his 40 years as a respiratory cripple, unable to move too vigorously because of breathlessness. His skin was bluish grey and his lips, tongue, the inside of his mouth, the beds of his nails were the colour of blue-black ink. He was a "blue baby" grown into blue middle age. After the transplant, his skin turned pink and six months later his activities are no longer circumscribed by breathlessness.

Surprisingly, the combined transplant is technically less difficult for the surgeon than a heart transplant because he has to join fewer main blood vessels together. And, in engineering terms, it is a more logical operation. Heart, lungs and the blood vessels that link them form a pumping/ventilation unit that oxygenates the blood. To replace just the pump in a damaged ventilation system is dubious engineering, and surgeons would have done combined transplants many times before if they had found a way to overcome the rejection problems that occur with transplanted lungs. Not only is lung tissue difficult to protect but the drugs given to overcome rejection can prevent healing at the junction connecting the transplanted lungs to the recipient's windpipe.

Last week, Dr Bruce Reitz, one of Shumway's colleagues, accorded a large part of the credit for the Stanford success to a new anti-rejection drug Cyclosporin A, the use of which was pioneered two years ago in Britain by Professor Roy Calne at Cambridge University. Cyclosporin A not only reduces rejection reactions to transplanted tissues but allows the surgeon to reduce the number and dosage of other more toxic drugs that have to be given after the operation to prevent the body's immunological defences from attacking the transplanted organs. Nearly all deaths that occur after heart transplant operations are due to the effects of these "immunosuppressive" drugs which, though they can prevent rejection, also reduce the body's capacity to deal with infection.

Clearly, Cyclosporin A is not the only reason for Stanford's success. Since 1968, Norman Shumway and his colleagues have performed 217 heart transplants and have acquired unique experience in the detection and control of tissue rejection. Shumway told me: "Surgeons who attempt these sort of procedures must lead up to them with successful laboratory work and animal experimental programmes. It helps the team appreciate the magnitude of the problems that will come up after the operation and gives the surgeon the chance to decide whether the procedure is just too big a mess for him to get involved in. What happened in the early days of heart transplants was that the patients, predictably, got into severe difficulties, people hadn't the exper-



Professor Shumway, above, taught Dr Barnard, right, but would not apply transplant techniques until he had improved rejection-control

## One step ahead of 'Yes Minister'

by George Cardona

I arrived at the treasury as a special adviser in May, 1979, clutching an armful of files which contained the policies we had worked on in the years of Conservative Opposition. I had read, and heard, about the obstructions the Civil Service would place in the way of a new Government. Books and articles by Labour ministers and special advisers (particularly in the Bennite wing of the party) warned me of what to expect. I was ready to defend our policies against the most dirty tricks.

An example was the Medium-Term Financial Strategy. Some officials thought it too great a hostage to fortune. There was a straightforward discussion; the Chancellor decided to publish; and officials have loyally defended it ever since.

All this does not mean of course that a weak minister will not be dominated by his officials. But a weak superior will be dominated by his underlings in any walk of life.

There is, however, one serious shortcoming in the way the Treasury treats ministers and advisers. It is reluctant to let them become involved in issues at an early stage. It likes to present ministers with a fully worked out set of options that have been exhaustively discussed at official level. By the time this process is completed, there can be too little time for ministerial consideration of the options; ministers have to take a decision, and advisers have to advise, without having had the opportunity to watch the argument develop.

Most major policy papers are processed through a committee, consisting of all the Permanent Secretaries and Deputy Secretaries, called the Policy Co-ordinating Committee. I think it is rather a pity that political advisers do not attend any of its meetings.

On the few occasions when a minister tried to intervene in policy formulation at an early stage, the official reaction was rather wretched. It would happen if a dinner in a smart restaurant were to get up to serve himself; no one would actually stop him, but six waiters would rush forward to do it for him.

In the past, some ministers have criticised another aspect of the official reluctance to let ministers become involved at an early stage. They have complained that officials are made to follow the line laid down by the Permanent Secretary, but this is by no means universal practice.

It was quite normal at meetings for Sir Douglas Wass to ask different officials to put different sides of the argument; and it was also quite normal for them to do so without being asked. However, I can think of at least one occasion on which a Permanent Secretary told his subordinates to argue a case contrary to the main thrust of the Government's privatization policy, even though those subordinates were in sympathy with the Government's strategy.

It is a great pity that the myth of conflict between ministers and advisers on the one hand and the Civil Service on the other has been allowed to grow.

Perhaps, more important, the myth would make it easier for a Bennite Government to introduce a political Civil Service, in which perhaps 3,000 top posts might change at an election, as part of a campaign to remove any constraints — such as the House of Lords, the EEC and, possibly, the five-year parliamentary term — on a government's freedom of action.

But if the Treasury is any guide to the Civil Service as a whole, the Bennites need have no fear that the Civil Service is biased against them. A highly able Treasury Assistant Secretary, who will go far, said to me on my last day in the Treasury: "If Mr Benn becomes Prime Minister, I and my colleagues will serve him faithfully."

I am sure he was right, and from my political position, I find it frightening that if there were a Bennite government — with a majority in the Commons — it would be under no effective constitutional constraints, and it would have at its disposal in the Civil Service a machine of great efficiency prepared to serve its political masters with loyalty and dedication.

The author was a political adviser at the Treasury from May 1979 till last month.

The helpfulness and cooperation I found could, of course, be explained in several ways. Maybe I was too stupid to notice that officials were subtly obstructing ministers and advisers. Labour ex-political advisers tell me that, of course, the Treasury would not obstruct a Conservative Government. It is a right-wing department. (However, the Treasury is usually disliked by most members of a government, regardless of which party is in power.)

To the advisers, the officials were merely helpful and kind. To ministers, they were fiercely loyal, in an impressive and consistent display of hard work and dedication. Arguments over policy were conducted frankly, quite often with some ministers and officials arguing on each side of the question. Once a decision was taken by the Chancellor, the argument stopped.

## Are politicians killing our planning system?

The Coin Street public inquiry, now under way at County Hall in London, is not just another local battle between noble natives and destructive developers, vivid though such be. What is under examination is the future of the British planning system which has guided the country since the last war. Indeed, the inquiry — the second on the subject — takes place in a context which indicates that Michael Heseltine has tacitly agreed to the death of that planning system: leaving to the public inquiry the enjoyable task of dividing up the corpse between the carrion.

British planning came of age with the 1947 Town and Country Planning Act, and was refined during the subsequent 20 years of consensus agreement over the way the machinery should operate. The philosophy was simple: that local authorities and government should employ substantial numbers of skilled and trained staff whose job would be to present to elected members the optimum possibilities for development.

The methodology was further refined in the '60s into a few clear stages: the preparation of a Regional Strategic Plan; followed by the preparation of a County Plan; followed by a Borough or District Plan, ending up with a non-statutory Local Plan. It was a cumbersome, often tedious and usually incomprehensible system, but it earned Britain the envy of the rest of the world.

More recently, however, the philosophy behind it began to change. People and planners began to realize that one person's advantage could so easily become another person's disadvantage. The end product of planning became to be seen as the disposition of public resources. Some trendy, radical planners coined the view that planning was "a political act". They might not have been so keen to see that stance had they been able to realize the extent to which other people would interpret the term "political act" and attack the foundations of the whole system.

There have been earlier doubts about the efficacy of the system: the third London Airport, the Greater London Development Plan, and now the Stansed Plan inquiries all raise questions about the possibility of consensus on major developments.

But the Coin Street inquiry is not major in that sense. What it reveals is that politicians can and will overturn the entire system, short term in the pursuit of casual, political objectives. If that can happen, is it not time to abandon the entire system?

Coin Street symbolizes an area of the Thames South Bank between the National Theatre and the empty King's Reach Hotel. In 1972, Lambeth Borough Council began consultations on a Local Plan for the area with the inhabitants, all relevant bodies, and the GLC as the county authority; all as provided for in the system. This lengthy but painstaking process selected Coin Street as the only possible remaining location for substantial residential development near the river-side.

The GLC agreed with that analysis, and issued a planning brief for that area reinforcing that residential component. The argument of the councils and the local people was that depopulation through lack of accommodation had become so acute that the surviving residents were insufficient in number to support schools, shops, doctors and like services. In short the same argument heard earlier from the inhabitants of Soho, Covent Garden and other parts of inner London. Without those additional houses in the Coin Street area, the community would rapidly expire.

Thus it was that all the procedures provided for under the Town and Country Planning Acts were satisfied, and design work began on building proposals (the sites being largely derelict). If the system had any validity at all, the conclusions were unassailable.

In May 1977, the GLC became Conservative-controlled. Within weeks it was known that the new administration did not consider itself bound to keep to the plan. Applications for office and hotel developments soon arrived, and were then com-

Michael O'Donnell

tered by an application from the local residents' associations themselves for the original proposals. The first public inquiry into the schemes opened in 1979, and in 1980, Mr Heseltine gave the judgment of Solomon.

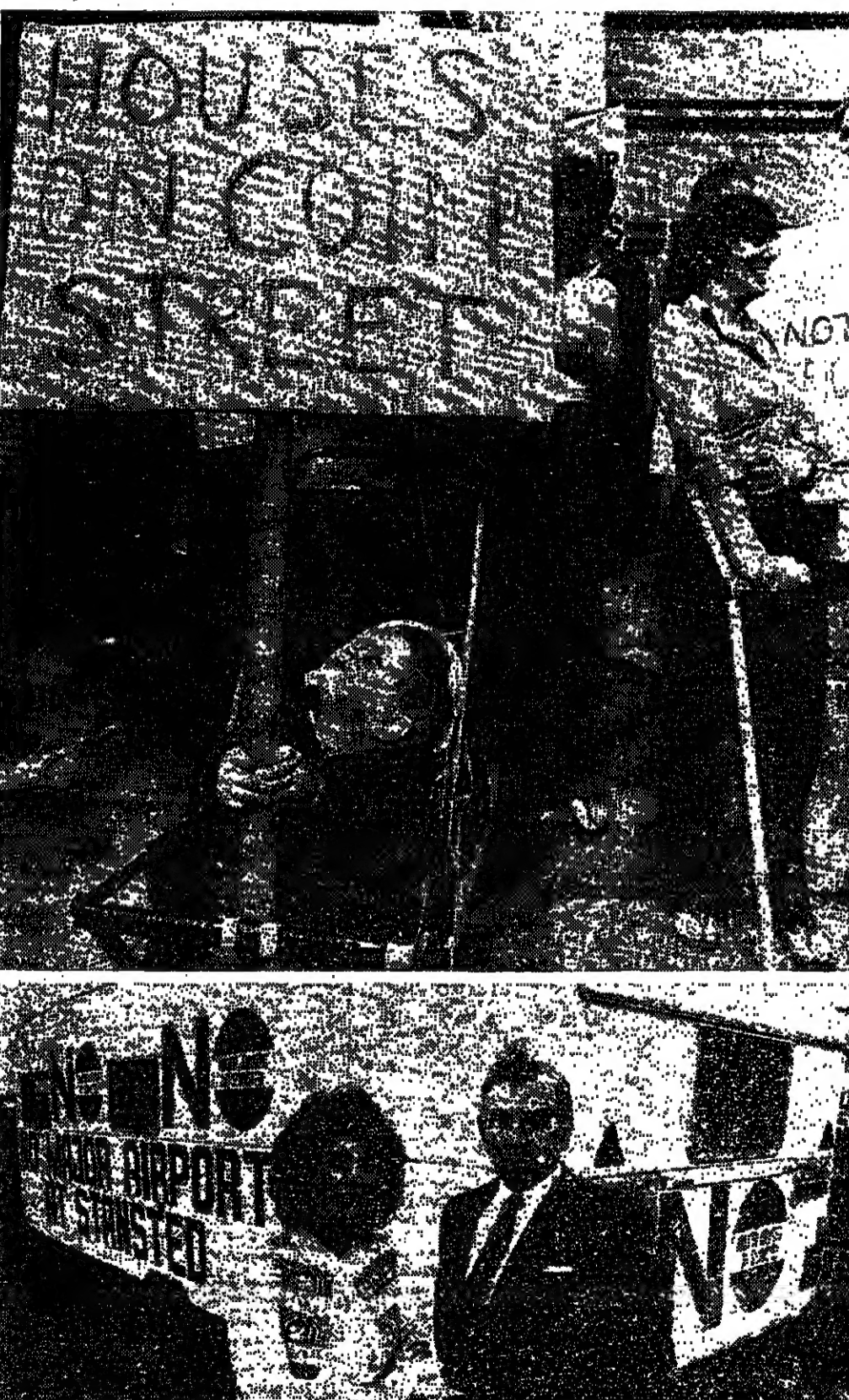
He accepted neither the commercial scheme — from Greycoat Estates, nor the local people's scheme, both on the grounds that each did not take sufficient account of an adequate balance of uses. New plans would therefore have to be submitted to a new inquiry. That second inquiry, now in session, is unlikely to finish before 1982.

However, Mr Heseltine's judgment contains in it the death of the planning system. By virtue of trying to promote compromise he has said by implication that the original Local Plan proposals were unacceptable and that the new GLC administration was correct to reject them. Fair enough: the GLC has now changed back again, and the new administration has done exactly the same with the previous administration's proposals — save that the Conservatives tied the new administration's hands by giving Greycoat preemptive rights for a period of time should they get planning permission.

As for the arguments about the "national importance" of this site which justify a change in policy, well, it is now that the Royal Fine Art Commission should intervene? Should they not be involved during the planning process rather than trying to overturn it?

Finally, the architecture. Greycoat Estates has employed an outstanding architect to make acceptable basically anti-planning proposals, whereas the Association of Waterloo Groups has produced a handsome scheme for basically correct proposals. Now would it not be interesting to speculate what London and the local community might have achieved had they employed Richard Rogers to consider how to design a scheme on this crucially important site?

Charles McKean  
Architectural Correspondent



Homes before development: a common theme for, top, young campaigner, and below, preservation association chairman John Lukies and organizer Sue Forsyth

## Gripped by the 'grin and bear it' illness

Banquets and receptions are generally considered pleasurable occasions, but they are also associated with suffering. Similarly, a holiday meal or a night out with friends at a restaurant is rarely considered the precursor of illness.

Yet such are the variable standards of food hygiene practice among institutional and contract caterers and restaurateurs that many of the 10,079 cases of food poisoning notified to town hall environmental health departments in England and Wales last year originated at these convivial gatherings.

Salmonella is the most serious, the most common, and the most pernicious form of food poisoning; a large majority of more than 6,000 cases of food poisoning officially recorded so far this year involved the salmonella bug. The Institution of Environmental Health Officers (IEHO) believes the figure to be many times greater each year because sufferers "grin and bear it" and do not visit their general practitioners.

It can kill, though it rarely does; there were 27 deaths recorded in England and Wales by the Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre in 1980, mostly through complications from other illnesses. But when the salmonella bacteria and microbiologists have identified more than 1,000 different strains — attack, they do with a vengeance.

My wife fell victim to salmonella following an end-of-summer holiday meal at a first class hotel restaurant in France, and after an initial four-day onslaught of acute intestinal pain, nausea, diarrhoea and headaches now four weeks on she still harbours the bug despite prescribed counter-attacks by antibiotics.

"Salmonella recognizes no national boundaries," cautions Clive Wadey, assistant secretary of the IEHO, putting to flight fantasies held by many that food hygiene in Britain is somehow superior to that encountered beyond our shores.

"Our advantage, as far as the battle against bacilli is concerned, is one of climate," he continues. "They relish warmer climes, as they do hot kitchens."

Dr Spence Galbraith, director of the Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre (CDSC) at Colindale, North London, while not discounting good food hygiene practice — "It's essential," he says — points out that salmonella is unique among all food poisons in that it is derived from animals — rarely from man — and not from food itself.

"We must look to better husbandry of animals," he says. The IEHO echoes Dr Galbraith's words. In its annual report for 1980 the institution, concerned at the continuing level of salmonella food poisoning, says: "We have continued to press for a review of the poultry meat inspection service."

The Food Hygiene Laboratory — part of the Public Health Laboratory Service — claimed earlier this year that 400 million chickens eaten in Britain each year contain salmonella. And it went on to add that in a sample survey of 100 frozen chickens from shops, 79 per cent were infected with salmonella.

"We recognize there is a problem though we do not believe figures are anywhere near as high as the FEH report which was from a very small sample," says Mr Don Haxby, chairman of the poultry sub-committee of the British Veterinary Association (BVA) and a practising vet in the East Midlands.

But salmonella in poultry will not infect humans if, in the case of frozen birds, they are thoroughly defrosted, and if they are properly cooked. "Cooking kills salmonella," adds Mr Haxby.

The Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food sponsored "Protein Processing Order" which is intended to establish practices designed to eradicate disease from poultry feed, comes into effect next year.

Other farm animals — cows, sheep, pigs — in contrast to poultry seldom present sal-

monella problems because of regular and rigorous health checks and less intensive breeding according to Scottish vet Ian MacMillan chairman of the BVA's large animals committee.

"As far as meat is concerned salmonella infection is almost exclusively the result of bad hygiene practice in the kitchen," says the IEHO's Clive Wadey.

"In this jungle we somehow have to establish a degree of order," says Mr Wadey. "Where bacteria does not have a chance to establish itself in present circumstances I believe the best way forward is through education." Mandatory food hygiene education for supervisors and managers in food establishments is his aim.

Neither Dr Galbraith nor Mr Wadey expect to wipe out salmonella along with all the other food poisons. "But we can move a long way to reducing the chances of being poisoned by the meal that marks a happy event in one's life — a wedding maybe?"

Clive Lewis

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# The muddle inside Britain's biggest union

Mr. Mostyn Evans has returned to his desk on the fourth floor of Transport House this week to find his union in its third highly public controversy in as many months. The aspirations of BP's 2,000 tanker drivers have led at best to a fine old muddle, the true nature of which may not be seen until the end of the week, if then.

The first controversy came in September when first the executive of the Transport and General Workers' Union, and then after several hours of spectacular uncertainty the union's Labour Party delegation backed Mr. Wedgwood Benn for the deputy leadership despite an official admission that rank and file opinion in a majority of regions was against him.

The second and very different row, fuelled by some enthusiasm by British Leyland, was over the refusal of the TGWU leadership to recommend the ACAS formula for ending the BL strike.

And third, there is the case of the BP tanker drivers ordered to decide again on an eight per cent pay offer after reports that a heavy majority had been in favour of acceptance and amid accusations by oil company executives of "suspect" voting.

All three of these issues have come to a head when Norman Tebbit and his Cabinet colleagues have been casting their unwelcome spotlight on the trade unions in preparation for fresh restrictive legislation. And all three have occurred while the man in active charge of Britain's biggest union has been Mr. Alex Kitson, the



Mostyn Evans: back at his desk and into yet another TGWU controversy.

tough, colourful ex-lorry driver from Kirkcubright who has had more publicity in the last three months than in 40 years as an active trade unionist.

The speed with which Mr. Kitson has moved into sharp focus as the hard man of the trade union movement makes it tempting to see him not only as the protagonist of all these conflicts but its single-minded architect as well. Indeed, to judge by his proprietorial remarks about pulling the tanker drivers out in last week's *Sunday Times* and his threats in his union's journal about the use of industrial muscle to smash the Thatcher Government, it is an image which Mr. Kitson himself at least partly relishes.

It is far from clear,

however, whether it reflects the reality of power in the TGWU. The changes which the union has undergone internally in the last 20 years and the special and unusual position thrust upon Mr. Kitson by Mr. Evans's long and serious illness have made him more a prisoner of the union's structure than even he appears to realize of occasions.

Each of the three main crises over the past few weeks bears this out in their own way. The outcome of the row over the deputy leadership election was by no means a strategic victory for Mr. Kitson. Indeed, he played a large, perhaps the largest part in encouraging Mr. John Silkin to stand for the job and he has a widely reported dislike for Mr.

Benn as a politician. In the case of BL, Mr. Kitson's failure to recommend acceptance of the ACAS formula, coupled with a guarded invitation to his members to strike, infuriated Sir Michael Edwards and his executives. Yet he also angered some of the more militant stewards on the 38-man negotiating team by not giving clearer direction.

The tanker drivers may well prove to be another case in point. They are in terms of sheer disruptive power one of the most highly geared groups in British industry. A strike by 10,000 of them would seriously damage British industry and much of normal social and working life within a short period — at a cost to the union of

about £120,000 a week compared with the £400,000 plus a BL strike would have cost the TGWU alone. And, like workers at Ford, where there are already rumblings of a strike, the tanker drivers bargain at the beginning of the pay round. It is therefore easy to see how tempting an industrial missile they are to pick up and hurl at Mrs. Thatcher.

It may not prove quite as simple as that. One question is whether they will strike but the other, if they do, they will do so for the purpose outlined in Mr. Kitson's recent remarks. The TGWU national officer directly responsible for the tanker drivers, repeatedly said the dispute has nothing to do with hearing Mrs. Thatcher

and everything to do with tanker drivers' money.

The fact is that the days of the TGWU boss, the image defined by Bevin, fostered by Deakin and modified by Cousins has disappeared in any recognizable form. The executive, 39 workplace activists, a majority of shop stewards is a real counterweight on policy to the general secretary, powerful as he is. The role of shop stewards in bargaining is equally pivotal. The process of continual references back through meetings like those in the oil companies are an example.

Shop steward influence in the TGWU is the legacy of Jack Jones, part of his own carefully laid plan, as he saw it, to democratize the union.

A serious imperfection remains the looseness and variety of consultation with lay members themselves. Part of the confusion over the deputy leadership and the tanker drivers dispute appear to lie in the widely varying forms of consultation ranging from a secret ballot to an informal chat in the tea-break. The TGWU has been consulting its members but it has yet to work out a common system for doing it.

Mr. Kitson has to be especially sensitive to other union institutions because unlike Mr. Evans but in common with other full time officials he has not been elected. It remains to be seen how long Mr. Evans will be fully fit to assume complete control but it is doubtful if he could become an old-style union boss even if he wanted to.

Don McIntyre  
Labour Correspondent

# England's oldest corner in Rome

The best of the famous guests to question about his impressions after visiting the venerable English College in the heart of old Rome would have been John Milton, who used the model for his description of the entrance to Satan's domain in *Paradise Lost*. The college has existed longer than any other English institution abroad essentially because it is named after St. Peter's.

The college is the loftiest entrance for young men from England and Wales who want to become Roman Catholic priests. Its students are chosen individually by the bishops on the grounds of their quality and academic capacity to follow courses at the Jesuit Gregorian university. Like other famous institutions, it is short of money and an appeal for funds has just been launched. Unlike the ancient institutions, it has changed successfully in the past few years to meet, rather than react to, a new situation. This has been a commendably regular occurrence in its long history.

The spirit of the place is strong, which is only to be expected from an unbroken English presence since September 1361 when an English seller of rosaries bought a house in Via Monserrato, where the college now stands, and sold it four months later to a group of English merchants who made it a hospice for pilgrims.

The expansion of the hospice was rapid and gradually the Crown took an interest to the point of appointing the warden. Presumably it would have gone on indefinitely as a lodging for visitors and a centre for English life in Rome if two disasters had not struck. It was looted in 1527 during the sack of Rome by imperial troops and England's break with Rome ended the royal connection and the flow of money and pilgrims. At the time of Elizabeth's accession it was a home for Catholic exiles and by then spent less than a tenth of its income on its old task of supplying the needs of pilgrims.

The substantive change came in 1579 when the hospice was suppressed by Pope Gregory XIII and converted into the English College as part of the Counter-Reformation's drive to found seminaries and train priests for regaining territories lost to Protestantism. The start under a Welshman called Clynog was bad because the temper of the students was more radical than that of their wardens. They liked the romantic, if dangerous, life of training specifically for missionary work in a hostile country, in this case, England. The Pope dismissed Clynog and made the college over to the Jesuits, who kept it until the dissolution of their

order in the eighteenth century. This romantic strain must have been strong in the men who returned to England under the constant threat of imprisonment or death. Forty-four former students were executed and 130 imprisoned or exiled.

The restoration of the college chapel is due to be finished on December 1, in time for the fourth centenary and the costs represent a part of the £500,000 for which the college is appealing.

Romance occasionally gets out of hand. The college naturally enough supported the Jacobites and records show the pilgrims came to be cured of scrofula by the "Old Pretender" when Charles Edward visited the college.

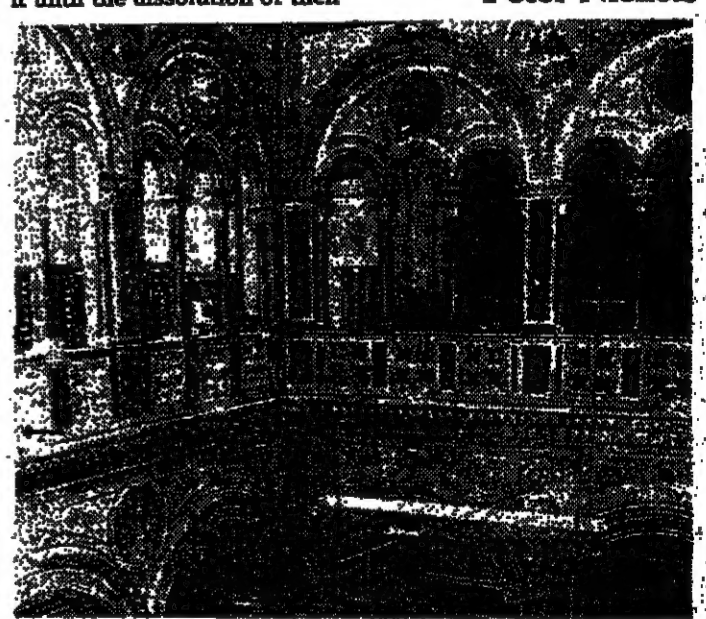
For many years now, the college has been not only the mainstay of Catholic life but of national life as well. Its rooms are full of young men who are decisively different even from their predecessors of 20 years ago. The atmosphere is academic, and welcoming. They are much freer, and show it in a far more confident manner. They dress like students anywhere instead of being obliged to wear black ecclesiastical uniform. They are happy to be seen in the common room to their common room, the Italian One Way Only traffic sign, on the mantle-piece, pointing straight upwards. The ecumenical element is strong; two Anglicans are regularly among the students and the appeal is strongly backed by the Anglican church.

The appeal is intended to be strictly practical. The £500,000 will largely be used to increase the earning power of the college's existing assets. Half of the total is to be spent on modernizing the college's villa which looks over Lake Albano to the Pope's summer residence at Castel Gandolfo. The idea is to make the villa a centre for conferences and retreats. The students' fees now provide 55 per cent of the college's income and another of the aims of the fund-raising is to increase the number of places available from 70 to 80. The apartments owned by the college in Rome would be renovated and let at high rent.

There has only been one similar moment of emergency in the recent life of the English College. In January, 1926, Mussolini's development plan for Rome foresaw the destruction of most of the college in order to make way for a covered market.

Now that a new appeal has been launched it is safe to say that the college's future is assured. It has fulfilled better its two traditional tasks as a centre for education and for hospitality.

Peter Nichols



Inside the English College in Rome, where English and Welsh priests have been trained for 400 years.

# How Carrington's dove failed to fly

"It's nice to have so many Middle East peace initiatives all of a sudden", a London-based Arab diplomat remarked recently. "What a pity they don't match up."

He was drawing attention, as tactfully as possible, to the fact that the Americans and the Europeans have managed to get into a diplomatic tangle of unusual complexity. The arrival in Washington today of Mr. Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, to "explain" Lord Carrington's recent trip to Saudi Arabia, is a sign of the extent to which the lines between the Western powers have become enmeshed.

The current confusion over the Sinai peace-keeping force is one illustration of this. The handover of Sinai is the most visible result of Camp David, and although it returns lands to Arab hands it is anathema to most of the Arab world, except of course for Egypt. The European commitment to the Sinai force, far from being the result of well-laid plans, has come about — like a great deal else in present Western policy — more by accident than design. Although intended to be under United Nations auspices, the peace-keeping force will be American in all but name, in view of Soviet objections in the Security Council. Washington has therefore this year tried to elicit the support of traditional allies, beginning

with Australia and New Zealand, in order to give the force an international character.

The New Zealanders were cool; but the Australian Prime Minister, Mr. Malcolm Fraser, was keen to help. As late as July this year the Australian found itself committed to his trip to Washington that his mind was not yet made up, and he was "weighing the implications". In fact, according to diplomatic sources, he had already said yes, on condition that Britain also took part. Encouraged, the American Secretary of State, Alexander Haig, approached the Europeans and was told by both Italy and France that they would be willing to contribute — as long as Britain joined in. Europe thus found itself committed to the Sinai force, without having considered the consequences for its relations with Israel or the Arabs.

The Sinai saga reflects the general level of misunderstanding, both between the European powers and between Europe and America. Mr. Haig — until recently thought of as a man sympathetic to the European viewpoint — last week called in the British Ambassador, and told



Lord Carrington (left), who has welcomed the Saudi peace plan to be put to the Arab summit by Crown Prince Fahd, is reported to have been told to "cool it" by Mr. Haig.

him that — as Mr. Haig later put it to American Jewish leaders — Lord Carrington should stop promoting the Saudi plan so enthusiastically, and should "cool it". This was intended to re-assure Israel. But the Israelis are alert to — and alarmed by — conflicting signals from Washington, with officials, including both Mr. Haig and President Reagan, hinting that they actually agree with Lord Carrington, up to a point.

British Ambassadors in the Middle East, meanwhile — including Sir James Craig in Jiddah, and Mr. David Roberts in Beirut — have muddled the waters by declaring that Camp David is "dead". The reason that Western and Middle East diplomats are tripping over each other in this way is that time is indeed running out for Camp David. There is a much to find alternatives and the murder of President Sadat has concentrated minds on the issues involved. Short of some dramatic move by Israel and Egypt in the talks on Palestinian autonomy, it is becoming increasingly apparent that the term "Camp David" could well enter the history books as a term denoting the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty, rather than a comprehensive peace settlement.

When the Israelis hand over the final portion of Sinai in April 1982, barely six months from now the first phase of Camp David will be completed. Instead of moving smoothly to fill the vacuum, however, the Reagan Administration is still responding to pressures from Israel, Saudi Arabia and Europe without reference to any co-ordinated policy.

The Europeans have pursued their own consistent line of thought, over a period of years. Lord Carrington was impressed by the arguments he heard during his tour of the Gulf two years ago, in the wake of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. The best way to counter the Soviet threat, he was told, was to bring regional stability by settling the Palestinian question, not by pouring in western arms and men.

The EEC Venice declaration of June last year, with its talk of Palestinian rights and the need to "associate" the PLO with peace talks, was largely a British production with support from the EEC east. There are, however, differences emerging among the Europeans, with some countries leaning toward the Arab viewpoint, and others more sympathetic to Israel.

The bold step of Venice has therefore not been followed up by any convincing, detailed explanation of just how the Europeans' version of Palestinian self-government is an improvement on the Camp David version; how Israel might be persuaded to accept

adequate security guarantees; and — above all — how the PLO can be made to compromise to the point where it becomes an acceptable negotiating partner.

European and British — hopes that the PLO might respond to the Venice Declaration by softening its stand have been disappointed. By committing itself to the Sinai force, Europe has in any case managed to antagonise both the Arab world, which suspects Camp David will be propped up, and the Israelis, who want nothing to do with the European approach. In the event, the European powers are only likely to contribute small contingents to a force overwhelmingly composed of — and paid for — by the United States. But Europe is clearly embarrassed at having reached this position almost by default. It is still possible that with the clock ticking on, the Americans and Europeans will be able to agree on a formula whereby their joint supervision of peace in Sinai is in some way linked to American support for aspects of the Venice Declaration and the Fahd plan, drawing particularly on the Saudi reference to the right of "all states in the region" to live in peace.

The main drawback is that no third party can hope to mediate between the Israelis and the Arab world unless he has the confidence of both sides. Lord Carrington, while known and trusted in the Arab world, has become unpopular and mistrusted in Israel, and there is no sign that this is likely to change.

Richard Owen

Henry Fairlie will resume his column next week.

"A high-powered luxe tour de force....." *Publishers Weekly*

**'SHEER DYNAMITE**  
A COLOSSAL  
JOB OF  
STORYTELLING  
IN THE GRAND  
MANNER.

**PROVENANCE**

**FRANK McDONALD**

Deep in the catacombs of Rome  
lies the secret to a young man's past.  
Some will kill to protect it.  
Others will kill to uncover it....

PROVENANCE by Frank McDonald

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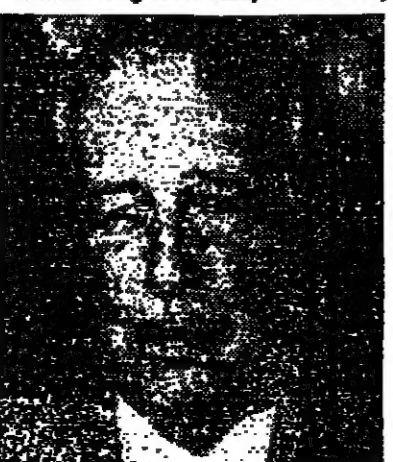
## Macmillan tells a Bible story

Harold Macmillan was in a scriptural mood when he ventured from his Sussex home yesterday to preside over a distinctly ecumenical gathering at the London headquarters of the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

As a long-standing friend of Britain's half a million Jews, who still enjoy after-dinner speaking despite his 87 years, Macmillan was guest of honour at a lunch to help celebrate the 220th anniversary of the board's creation.

Apart from rubbing shoulders with an archbishop from the Greek Orthodox Church, a liberal sprinkling of British Jewry's most distinguished names and the most reverend Bruno Heim, the apostolic delegate to Great Britain, Macmillan also had the opportunity of meeting the Polish ambassador, a counsellor from the Hungarian embassy and a whole clutch of MPs and peers.

After the gefilte fish, fruit salad,



Harold Macmillan: lunch guest.

## THE TIMES DIARY



A perfectly hideous new fashion in jeans is about to hit the market in the wake of Ryan O'Neal's latest film. So Fine. From January, when the jeans will be available without back pockets. In their place will be sections of clear plastic enabling wearers to exhibit rather more than their personalities. In an equally thin movie plot,

O'Neal splits his jeans after being caught in flagrante delicto. Pursued by a large and jealous husband he rushes off to seek repairs to his clothing. In the ensuing mayhem he is spotted and pounced upon by a group of fashion designers.

Newer ones to miss a new craze when they see one, American jeans manufacturers are planning to market the O'Neal trousers shortly. Now Warner Brothers, who are responsible for the film epic, are negotiating with eager British manufacturers.

like to know about the Kings of Judea....

## A certain sameness

Galleries of red faces were to be observed on both sides of the television divide yesterday over a play by the late Rosemary Davies which will be screened next week. According to the BBC, *No Visible Scar* tells the story of a nurse imprisoned abroad for attending a wounded rebel who, on her return to England, is accused by an MP of having "political affiliations". Does the plotting any bells?

In the early 1970s Dr Sheila Cassidy was jailed in Chile in similar circumstances and when released in 1975 her revelations led the Labour Government to break off relations with that country. Then, when the present Government restored them, the Minister of State, Nicholas Ridley said "she might have been mistaken" about her treatment.

Normally when the BBC dramatizes a real-life story it likes to say so. So why no mention of Dr Cassidy in the build-up to the play? Firstly the BBC denied it is about her. Then a man in the play for Today production offices disclosed



Dr Sheila Cassidy in real life.

Dr Cassidy had read and approved the script. But the play was not "actually" about her.

Finally it was revealed that she has sold the rights to her book about the experience. *Audacity to Believe*, to Southern Pictures, the film arm of Southern Television, which is to live on after the body to which it is presently attached dies by order of the IBA on December 31.

I asked Mark Shivas, executive producer of Southern Pictures, whether they were planning to take out an injunction to stop the BBC. "Oh, no, it isn't about Sheila Cassidy, you see," he said. And she would hardly have been in a position to approve a script about a purely fictional character.

## Reshuffled

Willie Whitelaw, I am sorry to report, has been dismissed from the cast of John Wells's *Anybody for Denis?* at the Whitehall Theatre. This, explains Wells, is because the Home Secretary has not been pulling his weight in Cabinet. It is also to allow further expression to Roy Jenkins.

Contrary to reports John Nettleton, who was forced into a rush change of costume during the interval to play both parts, will continue to play the new enlarged Jenkins. A new scene by Wells has Jenkins throwing himself across the conference room door in a dash for the mile ground as the police launch an SAS-style raid.

A ceremonial destruction of Whitelaw's costume has left the cast only with his wig as a memento. "Whitelaw was an old bore so we decided to kill him, but I am very glad John has agreed to stay on with Jenkins," said Wells. "After Angela Thorne (Mrs Thatcher) he is the most valuable member of the cast."

## Exposed

A revealing story about Peter Ryde, for many years golf correspondent of this newspaper, has just come to light in the autobiography of that doyen of the golf writing world, Pat Ward-Thomas.

In *Not Only Golf*, published this week by Bantam and Stoughton, Ward-Thomas, then golfing correspondent of *The Guardian*, recalls that Ryde was famous among his friends for his absentmindedness.

"Rarely, it seemed, did he leave or arrive at a golfing place with all his equipment and this became a standing joke among his friends. One year a group of us was flown to Miami to see a development in the Bahamas. "Peter, of course, had forgotten his swimming trunks but the ocean was so tempting that he wrapped his loins in a copy of *The Times*."

Michael Horsnell





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## THE TEST OF MR TEBBIT'S METAL

Can Mr Norman Tebbit fly? He has a rare opportunity. He is putting the finishing touches to what will be the last major trade union legislation by this Government and what may be the last legislation for a decade: a Labour government would attempt to reverse any effective measures, an SDP or coalition government might be inclined to leave matters alone, and a Tory Government with as strong-minded a Prime Minister as big a majority is not at the moment the likeliest prospect for the five years after 1982-3. There are two reasons why Mr Tebbit should seize his moment. There is a case concerned with justice and a case concerned with economics and his Bill must take account of both.

It is already certain that the Bill will contain a number of provisions to restrain the abuse of union power towards individual members and employers. Steps like guaranteeing redress to those deprived of work or denied it by a closed shop and the nullification of contract clauses banning non-union labour are much needed safeguards. In the long run they may tend to make unions more accountable and less oppressive in their activities. All this is worthwhile in itself, but it is the policy of the low road. It would be an illusion to suppose that such changes even in aggregate can make much difference to the economic damage done to Britain by its present pattern of industrial bargaining. Equally, the inevitable protests that closed shop strikes would strike at the root of the legitimate functioning of British trade unions will largely be empty noise.

The high road to industrial reform means directly confronting the unequal balance of power which afflicts labour relations in Britain and impairs our industrial performance compared to that of our competitors. We do not lose an exceptional number of working days through industrial action, even in normal times, but strikes here are exceptionally damaging because they occur so suddenly and unpredictably, causing the greatest possible harm to production and to our reputation for meeting delivery schedules. Most are unofficial stoppages made in disregard of established procedures, or strikes by small groups whose work is

so essential to the running of a large enterprise that they threaten to bring the whole operation to a standstill.

Limiting these abuses without impairing the acknowledged needs of unions to carry out their function is not easy, but it is urgently desirable. It is already expected that the bill will seek to redefine the corporate immunity of unions from civil litigation so as to make them liable for unofficial action taken by members in defiance of procedural agreements. Such a clause could be the most effective possible way of changing the industrial balance, if employers proved ready to make use of it.

But the Government seems less interested in another course which could be potent. This is the proposal for a "lay-off clause" put forward by the Engineering Employers' Federation in their response to last winter's Green Paper. As industry becomes increasingly integrated, more and more small groups like computer operators and makers of essential components are acquiring the power to demand increases out of line with their less strategically placed colleagues. The cost of paying an idle workforce and the alternative cost of redundancies can leave an employer with no alternative but capitulation. Workers not on strike have no incentive to urge their colleagues back to work — and some incentive to wish them success, in hopes of following with similar claims of their own. As economic recovery reduces the number of cases where an employer can credibly protest that an extortionate settlement would put him out of business, the problem will grow in importance again.

Ideally, it should be for the employer to negotiate to ensure that individual contracts of employment provide for lay-offs in such circumstances. In parts of the motor industry and some other areas, laying workers off without pay because of lack of work is already an established practice; the law even lays down that a minimum of five days' pay must be given to workers when they are laid off. But in most cases contracts either make no provision for such a thing, or they are ambiguous. Most employers prefer not to take the risk of expensive litigation.

The Government seems inclined to leave the matter in

the private domain. In practice that means growing opportunities for exploitation by small groups. Renegotiation of contracts on any scale would be so slow and contentious as to be effectively impossible. Although it is generally better for legislation to avoid intervening to modify the effect of existing contracts, wider justice has sometimes been held to demand it: the law of landlord and tenant as well as employment law shows a number of examples.

The position of the disadvantaged party always has to be safeguarded, especially so in this case where he would be an innocent bystander to the dispute. His redundancy and pension rights should not be impaired in any way, and due notice should be required. It would be necessary for the employer's claim that a dispute existed serious enough to endanger his business to be open to challenge in formal proceedings, with provision for rehearings in changed circumstances. Real problems exist connected with the definition of a dispute and an employer (plant? company? group?). It would be against natural justice for employees to be statutorily laid off because of action against quite another company by members of a different union. But action by their own union to cut off supplies ought surely to be included.

These complexities are real but soluble if there is a will: any moderately ambitious civil servant at the Department of Employment could write a marvellous wrecking memorandum, and no doubt the clause would be caricatured as being against the worker. On the contrary the workers affected by disputes not of their making would benefit by the reduced risk of their company's resources being bled away and it is possible that the innocent would lose no more than a few days' pay because disputes would tend to be shorter. The proposal does not encroach on the sacrosanct areas of collective bargaining and union immunity. It needs no union cooperation. It creates no threat of penal sanctions for those anxious to embrace martyrdom.

Mr Tebbit should therefore proceed boldly. The roars before his entrance have made Mr Prior look like a mouse but that is more honest than being a cowardly lion.

## NEITHER HARD BORROWER NOR SOFT LENDER

Far more has been at stake in the discussion of India's request for a \$3bn loan from the International Monetary Fund than the merits of the specific case. The loan application has become the first test case of the Reagan Administration's determination to tighten up the terms on which the IMF provides funds to developing countries. Although India has been given the money, some of the conditions which it seems to have accepted and the nature of the debate suggest that the United States Administration has suffered what is at worst a kind of Pyrrhic defeat.

Little has emerged of the detailed conditions which the Indian government has accepted in return for its money from the IMF. But it is clear that behind its public position, that it would not accept outside interference in its running of the economy, the government of Mrs Gandhi has made some important concessions. Subsidies are to be reduced to bring down the government's budget deficit and domestic credit is to be restrained. Although the Fund has not insisted on a devaluation of the rupee, the programme involves a considerable degree of austerity. It is thus understandable that the Fund staff felt able to support the proposal, something which meant that what-

ever the doubts felt by the United States the loan was practically certain to go ahead.

Although it was never likely that the United States would manage to hold up the Indian loan request, it has succeeded in raising important questions about the direction in which the Fund has been moving. Traditionally, the IMF restricted its activities to providing short term financial assistance to countries facing an immediate balance of payments crisis. In recent years it has moved away from that role towards the provision of countries which find themselves with deep-seated payments deficits. The length of time for which money has been lent has grown longer and the conditions imposed have become softer. At times, the Fund has seemed to have moved towards a position of underwriting continuing deficits.

That change was to a certain extent inevitable. The impact of the oil crisis forced all countries without large oil reserves into deficit. But there are grounds for thinking that things may have gone too far. Countries have turned to the IMF as a source of cheap finance to cover their payments deficits. The Fund, which relies on the resources provided by western nations and OPEC surplus countries, has shown signs of becoming a

source of soft lending at cut price rates.

There is some ground for hope that American Administration is getting its message across. In recent months the Fund has been looking very carefully at all major loan requests. It has clearly done so in the case of India and can be expected to be at least as strict in its treatment of other countries which go to it over the months ahead. The statement by the United States expressing its doubts about the wisdom of the Indian loan can be seen as a warning that if future actions by the Fund suggest that it is slipping back towards a soft line on lending the United States will, in the last resort, feel that it has the right to use its power to prevent a loan.

The India loan application would not have been the right occasion for that. The Administration's policy of trying to limit the growth of lending by the IMF and subjecting countries to the disciplines of the commercial market place will in any case have to be implemented with great skill. But the outlines of a more cautious approach from the Fund have begun to emerge, and the fact that India was successful in getting its money should not be taken by other countries as a signal that other applicants will necessarily get theirs.

## Local council spending

From Mr John Heddle, MP for Lichfield and Tamworth (Conservative)

Sir, Local democracy is a fundamental good in a plural society but the root of the problem which the Local Government Finance Bill, so roundly criticised by your leading article of November 7, seeks to cure is that local government is presently financed by taxes which do not bear directly upon the electorate.

The revenue from national taxes through grant and rates paid by the business ratepayer is over five times that of the domestic rate — the local tax bearing on local electors. Ideally the extravagant council should be held in check through fear of its own electorate. That is the underlying principle of local accountability.

The Bill is intended to curb the antics of a few high-spending councils, whose affairs are in the hands of the social engineers of the left, who are at once "bidding the hand that feeds them" and

manipulating an outdated rating system to achieve their own political ends; but in fact a much larger number of councils, including many who have faithfully carried out the Government's bidding since 1979, will be punished too.

The failure of the last Government to carry through the recommendations of the Layfield report and the inability of civil servants to produce proper solutions to the long-term problems of local government finance increase the pressure upon the Government to carry out a root-and-branch reform of the rating system. This will be popular politically, and will simultaneously strengthen local democracy.

Failure to reconcile permanently the relationship between central and local government will sound the death knell of local government and herald the "entrance of municipal socialism."

Meanwhile, I am haunted by a piece of graffiti written during the French students' riots in 1968:

"Referendum — to vote for one's own ball and chain!"

JOHN HEDDLE, House of Commons.

## Taken in vain

From Dr Boyd Hilton

Sir, Canon Shaw is right in saying (October 27) that the word "theology" is used too much nowadays and that it is unfair to blame God for mistakes made by governments. But he has probably underestimated the extent to which economic theories are, and have always been, based on assumptions about the nature of man and the moral order of society which can properly be called "theological." As Mrs Thatcher said in *The Observer* (May 3, 1981), "economics are only the beginning; the object is to change the nation's soul."

Yours faithfully,

BOYD HILTON, Trinity College, Cambridge.

هكذا من الفضل

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Life and death responsibilities for handicapped children

From Mr Roger Gray, Q.C.

Sir, The Reverend N. M. de S. Cameron (November 9) criticised Sir Alfred Ayer (article November 6) for failing to perceive the consequences of his own arguments when defending the proposition that, in certain circumstances, a handicapped child should be allowed to die. But he has perceived the consequences of his own downgrading of the interests of the parents.

It is quite true that it would be highly dangerous to open too many doors so as to allow the lives of innocent individuals to be subordinate to the interests of others. For instance, one of the strongest arguments against the acceptance of euthanasia is that it would open a door for evil-doers who would use it as a means of escape from a criminal conviction. But the position of the handicapped child is quite different.

The child is brought into the world, in the great majority of cases, by virtue of the love of the mother and father. The child is theirs. It is they who will have to care for it. It does not belong to society as a whole. It is only if one takes the view that in some way all babies are state property that one runs the risk of the idea of state extermination, to which the Reverend N. M. de S. Cameron refers. It was such a philosophy which caused the Spartans to put out their sickly children to die in the hills and gave rise to Hitlerian theories about a master race.

Once a corporate element is introduced into an issue such as that, or that or that, one is clear thought about it.

If, however, one starts from the point that the individual child is the product of individual parents, who are not only its creators but its rightful guardians, then the argument for allowing them to make a decision about the life or death of the child is overwhelming. The state or the law should only intervene if their decision is plainly irresponsible or criminal. The fact is that up to now nobody has regarded it as unreasonable or abnormal for a parent to consult doctors to allow handicapped children to die in circumstances similar to those of the Dr Arthur case. The practice has been in existence for generations and has been accepted as comprehensible and ethical.

Two things have happened in recent years to cause the present controversy. First, organisations such as Life have infiltrated the hospitals to inform on the practice and there is now an army of social workers who think they know better what is good for the child than do the parents. Second, medical science has enabled a lot of injured babies to live when previously they would have died, whatever the care devoted to them.

The first of these developments is greatly to be deplored, in that it undermines the only safe basis for a civilized and liberty-loving society, namely the recognition of parental responsibility and the need to keep state intervention in this sphere to the minimum.

For the second development, there can be no desire to stop it because it may bring cures where hitherto there were none. But, although it may make it more difficult for doctors to give advice and parents to make a decision, it is surely not a reason in itself for any alteration in our attitude to this most tragic of human problems.

Yours faithfully,

ROGER GRAY, Queen Elizabeth Building, Temple, EC4.

November 9.

From Mr Robert Heller

Sir, No good would have been served by the conviction of Dr Arthur. But the sad death of his little patient, John Pearson, may yet do good if the public issues raised by this tragedy are, unlike their innocent protagonist, kept alive.

First, why should the rejection of a child by its parents be a factor, let alone the sole criterion, in deciding whether the child, handicapped or not, should live or die? Suppose the father had died previously and the mother died in childbirth. Would any paediatrician then dare withhold food or medical treatment from their offspring, simply because the only alternatives (as with a rejected handicapped child) were adoption, fostering, or life in an institution? Further, if it is right and proper that a child should die on rejection at birth, at what age does it become wrong? And if so, Second, on what grounds is a doctor justified in denying food to a newborn child, who would otherwise possibly live and whose strongest urge, as any parent knows, is to take suck? Of course, the hunger pangs have to be treated by sedation. Of course, the child is quite likely to be carried off by some infection or complication before it dies of malnutrition. But the practice is no more civilized than that of the ancient Spartans, who exposed feeble children on the mountain side. "Nursing care only" is a death warrant, and it is hypocrisy to pretend otherwise.

Parental rejection and denial of food alike serve as a smokescreen that hides from doctor and public the fact that it is the doctor and the doctor alone who really makes the life-or-death decision — and who executes it. There are many tragic cases where the decision does pose a genuine doctor's dilemma.

But Down's Syndrome is not, per se, among those cases. Those

Down's children who survive the increased perils of their infancy (which apparently include the possibility of being put down like unwanted kittens) have good prospects of health and happiness. True, they all have relatively low intelligence and a relatively great dependence on others. But can that be any reason to deny life to these gentle people? Surely, society should defend them. They can hardly defend themselves.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT HELLER, 53 Fitzroy Park, N6.

From Mr John Foster

Sir, The trial of Dr. Arthur has made clear, what some of us have long suspected, that many paediatricians are practising a form of "euthanasia" on handicapped babies who have been rejected by their parents — a form of euthanasia which is morally indefensible and, despite the verdict in the Arthur case, probably illegal.

The paediatricians prefer to describe their practice not as killing, but as "letting nature take its course." But it is hard to see how the withholding of food and basic medical care, with the intention that the baby should die, could be so construed, particularly in cases where the baby's handicap would not, with normal treatment, be fatal.

They also stress, as if this were some sort of defence, that they only withhold normal treatment in cases where the parents wish the child to die. But this is no defence at all, either moral or legal. The charge which has to be met is that they have violated the rights of the child, not the rights of the parents. The violation is not assessed simply because those who should be most concerned for the child's protection consent to it.

It is also sometimes claimed that, because of his handicap, the life which the child forfeits is not worth living. But many people who suffer handicaps lead happy and creative lives. The most that could be said is that handicap makes the achievement of a worth while life more difficult, but this is a reason for devoting more time and resources to helping the handicapped overcome their difficulties, not a reason for terminating their lives before the difficulties arise.

It is a sad reflection on the current ethical standards of the medical profession and the moral values of the wider society which is that those babies who, by reason of their handicaps, stand in most need of paediatric care and who, by reason of their parents' rejection, stand in most need of legal protection should be so shamefully treated.

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN FOSTER, Brasenose College, Oxford.

### Burdens and benefits

From Mr Alan Walker

Sir, May I correct one important misconception implied by your otherwise admirable leader, "Burdens and benefits" (October 29). People with disabilities should indeed expect exemption from cuts in their benefits which are widely acknowledged to be inadequate. But sadly, that is not the case. On the eve of the International Year of the Disabled the Government cut invalidity benefit by 5 per cent (a loss of £1.15 a week for a single person) and dependants' allowances were increased by only 5.5 per cent instead of 16.5 per cent.

This cut applies throughout the international year and must be borne by 650,000 people with disabilities until benefits are taxed, even though the Government acknowledges that most of them will not be liable to pay tax. The reduction in child dependency additions has been repeated in 1981.

These cuts fly in the face of official and independent evidence on the close link between disability and poverty, and also of Conservative election promises to implement a comprehensive disability income.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN WALKER, Lecturer in Social Policy, Department of Sociological Studies, The University of Sheffield, Sheffield, November 3.

### Nationality Act

From Lord Campbell of Alloway, QC

Sir, Under the British Nationality Act the judiciary is prevented from entertaining any challenge to the rectitude of any exercise of ministerial discretion: even when "unreasonable" in the sense in which the term is used in public administrative law.

There are of course certain areas (such as the nationalization cases) which, according to tradition, lie within the exclusive province of the Executive. But assuredly there are other areas which do not. So once again the question arises as to whether an administrative court should be set up under some statute having overriding effect, to ensure that in general (subject to exceptions) all decisions of the Executive would be open to full review at the suit of any subject having a legitimate interest.

If such measures were to be set in train before the British Nationality Act takes effect in 1983 certain tensions would be removed; some fears would be allayed; and a measure of reasoned objection as recorded in Hansard would be met.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
CAMPBELL OF ALLOWAY, 1 Barcourt Buildings, Temple, EC4, November 2.

### Mr Foot's style at the Cenotaph

From Dr Aileen Ribeiro

Sir, With regard to the somewhat eccentric costume worn by the Leader of the Opposition at the Remembrance Day service in Whitehall yesterday, it might be apt to recall the words of the eighteenth-century writer Giuseppe Baretti, who commented on hearing a sermon preached against dress extremes, to be sure, are extremes; and the variety of dressing may be carried so far as to be ridiculous; yet sinful it can scarcely ever be; therefore if I were a preacher, I would never bear hard upon this point, because I have observed that people well dressed have in general a kind of respect for themselves, and whoever respects himself, does a very good thing.

Baretti was writing at a time when the London populace would attack verbally, and sometimes physically, passers-by in the streets whose style of dress was thought inappropriate, usually because it was over-elaborate or foreign; Baretti had suffered in this way when he first came to London.

It is true that, although we sometimes pretend that dress is a trivial matter (and it looks as though Mr Foot has an indifference to his appearance that is almost Johnsoonian) any divergence from the accepted mode on certain occasions can still arouse the passions.

Yours faithfully,  
AILEEN RIBEIRO, History of Dress Department, University of London, Courtyard Institute of Art, 20 Portman Square, W.1, November 9.

From Mr Peter Cotes

Sir, The matter of the Leader of HM Opposition and his mode of dress at this year's Armistice Day ceremony has surely got out of hand. There are too many really important issues for the media and certain members of Parliament to bother their heads about as it is. When Al Vice-Marshal Charles Mungall, General Secretary of the British Legion, was asked to comment by your newspaper he was reported to have said: "What people wear is entirely their own matter, as long as they attend in the right spirit."

Nobody who has known Michael Foot down the years can doubt that he "attended in the right spirit"; indeed his courage and humanity during a long career of public service have done him more honour than observing the mere trappings of publicly-expressed grief.

It was to the great credit of the Queen Mary, that when George V died no blinds were lowered by her orders and no windows were darkened on the death of the Monarch. Real grief needs no such adventitious publicity as the show of external "mourning" demanded by the wearing of a black tie, surely an optional matter and hardly worthy of the "note" accorded by your diarist in his column today (November 9).

To enforce on others a command as to how it is proper to respect the memory of dead from both wars is to rob death of its dignity and sympathy of its spontaneity.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER COTES, Savage Club, 9 Fitzmaurice Place, Berkeley Square, W.1, November 9.

From Mrs Hilary Dyer

Sir, A polite refusal to attend the Cenotaph service from Mr Foot would have caused surprise and mild debate, but we are a tolerant race well aware of differing opinions and happy that we all have the freedom to enjoy them.

Mr Foot's behaviour was indeed a grave insult to those who fought bravely so that he might hold his views and will have saddened many Labour voters. Why do politicians so badly misjudge the reactions of the people?

Yours faithfully,  
HILARY DYER, 1 Bradley Gardens, West Ealing, W13, November 9.

### Trap for the stroller

From Mr Clancy Sigal

Sir, Its vast parks are among London's enduring glories. Why then must they be turned into traps for the unwary? This Sunday evening, shortly after 5 pm, I was strolling through Hyde Park when a Park Police van sped past announcing, in a static-ridden and almost incomprehensible way, that the park was closing and for the public to leave by the nearest exit.

Alas, although I moved promptly, all the nearest exits were securely locked. It was only by luck that I found a gate, half a mile away from my starting point, that was just then being swung shut.

What happens to the unlucky? It can be rather frightening to be lost in a dark, locked park at night. Of course, they can always climb over the iron railings. But what of the elderly and disabled?

Sincerely,  
CLANCY SIGAL, 19 Wigmore Street, W.1, November 1.

### Bar sinister?

From the Reverend Charles Robertson

Sir, Your picture "Heralding a new Parliament" (November 6) is magnificent, but can anyone explain why there were no Scottish *Heralds* and *Turpin* present at the state opening of what is, after all, the Parliament of the United Kingdom?

Is there a bar to their presence, or is it that they have never been invited to take their proper part in this important event?

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
CHARLES ROBERTSON, Mansel of the Camongate, Edinburgh, November 6.

### Pick of the basket

From the British Minister in Berlin

Sir, In last week's *Collectors' Diary* (October 31) Mrs Norman inquired about references to paperbaskets earlier than 1820. May I refer her to chapter XIII of Harold Nicolson's *The Congress of Vienna* (page 204-5 in my 1946 edition).

Nicolson mentions the daily reports submitted to the Emperor Francis by Baron Hager, the President of Police, of information collected by his spies, whose tasks included rummaging in the delegates' paperbaskets. Hager's reports survive and were published in Commandant Weil's *Le dossier du Congrès de Vienne* (Payot, 1912).

It is good to note that even in 1815 British delegations were security-conscious. "The British Mission", reported Hager, "owing to excessive caution has engaged two housemaids on its own. Before I can get at the wastepaper which they throw into the baskets I must see whether I can count on these two women. . . . The box in Lord Castlereagh's room appears only to contain private papers. It would thus be best not to risk examining its contents in view of the length and danger of such operations."

Yours sincerely,  
F. R. MACGINNIS, British Military Government, Berlin, BFPO 45, November 4.

### Unification Church

From Mr Tim Brinton, MP for Gwent (Conservative)

Sir, Professor R. V. Jones, of Aberdeen University, wrote last Saturday (November 7) concerning my motion to the House of Commons and the conference in South Korea on the Unity of the Sciences.

I, of course, regret that, due to a misunderstanding between myself and Mr Casey McCann, the name of Professor Jones was amongst those academics I expected to attend this conference sponsored by the Unification Church. In his letter Professor Jones used the phrase "pilloried in Parliament".

I would assume from his choice of words that he felt that his name was being associated with membership, or at least adherence, to the Unification Church. Nothing was further from my mind when I tabled this early-day motion. Academics are free, and should be, to attend any conference they wish, and it was my long being marked as adherents to any "cult" who may be the sponsoring party.

I am delighted to learn of Professor Jones's efforts, some successful, to persuade students to return to Britain to continue their studies. That is all I am asking of any academics who will be attending this conference.

Yours faithfully,  
TIM BRINTON, House of Commons, November 10.







THE ARTS

Television

Gripping nostalgia

Brideshead is almost at half-way point. No doubt Waugh would have gone up to a puff of incense at the thought of his diffident offering, being classified to 11 episodes but he did tend towards sudden incandescence and, in the event, protest would have been needless: television has taken over and it is unlikely now that those who have marked this far are going to drop out.

Some will have fallen by the wayside, perhaps thinking it a pity that gilded youth in the Twenties did not have larger problems to get drunk over, or baffled by God's spasmodic and enigmatic intrusions into this affluent milieu. Those who remain must surely be fastened to by the spectacle, the nostalgia, the memory of days when shirts went on over the head, when cigarette cases could be tapped for confidence, when being well-to-do consisted of having lots of little odds and ends, all of them expensive. We need to see such knick-knacks at the pictures in the Thirties and, if we lacked them, it was a kind of possession.

The novel has now receded. Some have said what a bad novel it was anyway, but John Mortimer has kept the language and that makes one think it would be wonderful to write a bad novel half as good.

Our mental images have now given way to television's so that Jeremy Irons is Charles Ryder and Anthony Andrews is Sebastian Flyte. The first is a little too quicksilver for me but not for the camera, the other a bit reminiscent of a fighter who has just been told he should not go out for the next round — but these are quibbles against an entrancing setting.

Now where were we last night? Well, Sebastian was still on the sauce, Lady Marchmain was exuding an air of righteousness over her little hall on earth, Charles Ryder was seeing Sebastian evaporate from his loving clasp, and it was a big, unhappy, almost regimental Christmas with a worse New Year to follow, a golden world of disenchantment.

I found it the most impressive episode so far, full of good acting and superb visual touches like the one where the brooding Sebastian, the ubiquitous doorman and hanger-on, well played by John Grillo, caught in a moment of discomfiture, inserted a slide showing down in his magic lantern.

The characters are still emerging. Claire Bloom's Lady Marchmain is now a focal point, glimpsed once in this episode, no doubt for the first and last time, in the garden room with her hair slightly askew but, for the rest, elegantly implacable: a woman for whom he would be an irrelevance.

Phoebe Nicholls comes along splendidly as Cordelia, the perennial younger sister, part puppy, part pain in the neck, and sharing the last quality rather with Sebastian's brother Briony, whom Simon Jones excellently restrains from coming completely to life. Then there is Gielgud, a magnificent diversion with his exquisite, eccentric cameo.

Onwards then to whatever I shall revisit next week.

Dennis Hackett

Dance

Australian strike

Dancers of the Australian Ballet are to meet their board today in the first move towards a possible settlement since they went on strike nearly three weeks ago. The dispute has already caused the cancellation of performances in Melbourne, Brisbane and Sydney. All hope of salvaging an intended run of *Swan Lake* at the Regent Theatre, Sydney, appears to have been abandoned; the question now is whether work could resume in time for the company's latest production, *The Firebird*, to be given at Sydney Opera House as announced on November 27.

As reported in *The Times* last week, the immediate occasion of the strike was the offer to principal dancers of new contracts for 1982 which involved either a cut in pay and status, or more than the four performances a week which had been agreed by an arbitration board. Underlying discontent, however, arises from a belief among the dancers, which is shared by many informed observers outside the company, that artistic standards have been allowed to fall because they were subordinated to business considerations.

Control of the company is seen as being effectively in the hands of the administrator, Mr Peter Bahen. His skill and drive are not in question, but the dancers complain of an uninspiring repertoire, insufficient preparation for their roles and a brusque refusal to discuss their requests.

The spokesman, Kelvin Coe, told me that at a company meeting on Monday support for the strike remained unanimous. The dancers recognize that, if their demands are not met, that could lead to the break-up of the company, but they say they would prefer that outcome to a continuation of past policies, and they hope that in the long run a fresh start will be made.

One solution that has been canvassed is the appointment of an artistic coordinator to have equal standing with Mr Bahen, whose functions would then be confined entirely to business matters. Whether that would work probably depends largely on the readiness of the board to change their attitudes; until now they have refused even to listen to the dancers' complaints.

Meanwhile, the dancers are organizing a gala performance to raise funds and have been heartened by the support of fellow professionals not only in Australia but around the world.

John Percival

Dana Reitz

Almeida

Coming in a half-circle to the centre of the Almeida's open stage, Dana Reitz pauses, takes her steps forward, a big back, repeats the phrasing (but with changes of step or timing) until she has the rhythm established in the audience's minds as well as her own, then proceeds to vary it like a musician improvising a set of variations on a simple theme. Her dance *Steps* is as simple as that, which means in fact that it is very difficult, because it has to hold the attention without any show of virtuosity, drama or prettiness.

Throughout its duration

(which can vary, she says, but on Monday night it was 15 minutes), her hands are cutting an elaborate series of sharp gestures around her upper body; and in her second dance, *Changing Score*, it was the hands rather than the feet that seemed to take the lead in developing the patterns. Then as an encore she performed *Steps 2*, which she explained as being based on a mixture of the other two dances. Yet thanks to her process of constantly reworking the basic material in performance, most of it looked new.

Dana Reitz comes from New York and is the last of the overseas performers invited to this year's Dance Umbrella season (which continues with indigenous offerings until Sunday). To some extent, it is to be expected that the standard should be higher among the guests than the native talent, since they have all been specially picked, whereas Umbrella has a duty, in return for public funding, to show as many local performers as possible.

Even making all possible allowances, however, it is obvious that Britain could not field a team to compete with the skill and adventurousness of Melissa Fienley, Karole Armitage, Eiko and Koma, Dana Reitz, Bill T. Jones and others who came from New York to dance here during the season. All the same, it is notable that the general standard of the season has been higher this time, and the existence of Dance Umbrella is undoubtedly a factor in that rise.

Another time, perhaps, there should be a little more selectivity and a slightly shorter (or, alternatively, less intensive) season. But the need for some such activity is now clearly proved. That is one of many reasons why the threat to the future of Riverside Studios is so shocking. More than half of the London performances took place there, and it is the best stage in London for the kind of dance Umbrella does best. Preserving Riverside, like improving Sadler's Wells, should rank high on any civilized order of priorities.

John Percival

Cinema

When silence really was golden

After *Napoleon*, the London Film Festival

presents another lavish recreation of the

cinematic past in King Vidor's *The Crowd*.

David Robinson investigates the forgotten

magic of the silent era.

Few people alive today know what the silent cinema was really like. We have been conditioned to believe that silent films were simply an imperfect stage in the evolution of the cinema as we know it today, a medium still lacking and waiting for a vital technological element.

The shock of the revival of Abel Gance's 1927 *Napoleon* has done much to shake this misconception. At its best, by the end of the 1920s, the silent film was a self-sufficient and autonomous art form. The historian Richard Griffith, writing only a few years after the event, summed up what had been lost with its demise.

"Whatever improvements it might have developed if it had survived a few years longer, the silent film at its best had by 1928 attained singular completeness as a human experience. To walk into a darkened theatre, to focus upon a bright rectangle of moving light, to listen somewhat below the level of consciousness to music which was no longer good or bad in itself but merely in relation to what was on the screen, and above all to watch, in a kind of charmed, hypnotic trance a pattern of images which appeared and disappeared as capriciously as those pictures which involuntarily present themselves to the mind as it is dropping off to sleep — but which, also like those of the mind, gradually mount to a meaning of their own — this was an experience complete and unique, radically unlike that provided by the older arts or by the other new media of mass communication. It bade fair to become the characteristic art-experience of our time."

Silent films, as Griffith indicates, were never meant to be silent. To see them flickering, in scratchy, washed-out copies, on film society screens, accompanied only by the whirr of the projector, or at best a hi-miss piano, is as misleading as seeing *Giselle* without its music or Turner in black-and-white, half-tone reproductions.

The very rare occasions

Zell Donville



Will Knightley (left), Stephen Boxer: lightning switches



Out of the crowd: James Murray with Eleanor Boardman as working-class heroine

those of most of the audience, he also, according to Vidor, suggested the title.

Vidor picked his leading man literally out of the crowd — a charming, 26-year-old Irish hick, James Murray, whom he found among the extras. Murray gave a performance of astonishing conviction and appeal. Afterwards he was unable to adjust to success, drifted into alcoholism, and died a few years later in the Hudson River. Vidor's then wife, Eleanor Boardman (who, as the *Hollywood* series revealed, remains even today one of the world's great beauties) abandoned her natural glamour to the role of the working-class heroine.

Vidor's most remarkable achievement was to combine uncompromising realism (he went so far as to shoot in the streets with a camera hidden in a handcart) with sophisti-

cated formal methods learnt from the German cinema of the day. *The Crowd* is indeed, in its way, the spogee of Expressionist cinema. The Expressionist element is never imposed or extraneous, but always serves the emotional content of the film, meaning stairway the boy mounts to his father's deathbed; the final shot, with the camera pulling back and upwards to return the hero to the crowd from which he first came.

The opening is justly famous, as one of the great virtuoso scenes in silent movies. The camera surveys New York, then a vast skyscraper, impossibly, it seems, it moves upwards and into a window, entering a huge room, filled with scores of men at desks, one of whom, finally, the image isolates as the protagonist. *The Crowd*, too, the language

of the silent-screen actor is seen at its most complete and accomplished. "You had the feeling, as director", Vidor has recalled, "that you could think anything and it would come through on the face. We had a sense of communication..."

The music, as for *Napoleon*, has been composed and arranged by Carl Davis. The inspiration here, he says, has been Gershwin and jazz; and the 40-piece Wren Orchestra will be augmented by a jazz combination, "I guarantee", says Davis, "that the audience will be in tears within the first reel. Silent films, shown as they were intended, have an emotional power quite beyond what we are used to in today's cinema."

The London festival, learning from the battle for seats for last year's showing of *Napoleon*, has scheduled three showings of *The Crowd*, on November 19 and 22, so that it

is one of the few festival events for which tickets are still available.

The festival will revive another of the screen's forgotten marvels, *Magnascope*, when it presents a newly-discovered, colour-tinted print of Schoedsack and Cooper's 1927 jungle epic *Chang*. Introduced in 1924 by Lorenzo del Riccio, *Magnascope* is a method of suddenly and dramatically enlarging the screen image at suitable moments, to four times its normal size. It was first used to set off the various natural marvels in the Marilyn Monroe vehicle *Niagara*. In *Chang* it augments the thrill of a stunningly short elephant stampede.

Theatre

The Brothers Karamazov

Fortune

Moving from Edinburgh to London via a two-week detour through the USSR (said to be the first British company to go there for eight years), this Brighton Theatre production has the Jack Ruby, which includes the Richard Crane-Fayola Williams partnership.

Their collaborative variations on Russian classics — *Bulgakov*, *Gogol*, *Pushkin*, and now *Dostoevsky* — have established them as one of the good reasons for visiting the Edinburgh fringe; but I rather wish that London were seeing their *Eugene Onegin* instead of the present piece.

Like its predecessors, *Brothers Karamazov* is offered as "a new play by Richard Crane", and makes good this claim not only through freedom of adaptation but also by filtering the original work through a modern sensibility. In this case (drawing on my favourite recollection of the novel) Mr Crane has compressed the events in a way that radically alters their tone. The piece splits into two parts, equally divided by the murder of the first leading role, the murder of the wicked old Fyodor, and the second examining which of his four sons was guilty of the deed. Dostoevsky's own characters are all too lean to own up, but in Mr Crane's version this really does become a case of "Don't all rush at once". The looming Dostoevskian pres-

ence and the sense of claustrophobic doom are removed, and in their place we get a sequence of mock-confessions, and cross-talk routines on the relative probability of the brass pestle or the paper-weight as the murder weapon, which Joe Orton would not have dissipated to have written.

With this emphasis on the usually suppressed comedy, Mr Crane paves the way for a full explosion of Slevin favour in the prosecuting lawyer's speech, describing his country as a "troika hurtling towards the mirage of the West" — as exemplified in the nihilistic and anarchic lives of the two elder brothers.

The cost of this approach is that we reach an exposition only in the second half, and those whose memories of the book are even fainter than mine may be left without a clue to what is going on. Casting is ingeniously split between a company of four, each with a major character to play, but also doubling supporting parts without the least confusion: whoever wears the fur coat becomes Fyodor; Peter Kelly and Will Knightley recline like cats as the two sirens Katerina and Grushenka. Within their main roles, too, they share with Bruce Alexander and Stephen Boxer an ability to switch like lightning to opposite emotional extremes. Mr Boxer also contributes part-songs fully within the Russian idiom and integral to the production's narrative drive.

Irving Wardle

Timon of Athens

Warehouse

Rarity might be enough recommendation for a visit to *Timon of Athens*, for not even the Royal Shakespeare Company has been exactly profligate with productions of one of Shakespeare's most intriguing minor plays. Its last version was John Schlesinger's production of 1965.

There are as well more immediate recommendations. Ron Daniels has bedecked moments of the play in modish theatrical garb, momentarily introducing three celestial judges who seem to have strayed from Brecht's *Good Person of Szechuan*, but such intrusions do not get seriously in the way of his general clarity.

As he has staged it, the story falls neatly into two halves. In the first part there is a plain wooden platform which serves as an unusually oriental Athens and is the scene of feasting at the home of Timon, where his legendary generosity can be well displayed.

Timon is the man who repays the gift of a horse with 20 better horses for the giver. He showers his friends with such offerings that they have grown wealthy on his kindness, while he himself has lost all his money and land. When it becomes his turn to beg a little kindness, his friends abandon him and he turns himself out into the wilderness, cultivating a deep and vengeful misanthropy.

With Richard Pasco at first

all gentle civility and sympathy, the character of Timon is acceptably real. He fills his lines with a sweet reason, certain that human nature is giving time. That sensibly kind approach is a sound and enticing basis of character, and marvellously contrasted to the dour philosopher of misanthropy, Apemantus.

In the second part of the play, when Timon is raving against mankind from his solitude — where he has ironically endowed him with a new fortune in gold — he will again confront Apemantus. Mr Pasco's generosity in his early life has allowed even kind words for Apemantus, but he and John Carlisle are subtly and amusingly matched in hatred when they meet again, with a philosophical debate that declines into a slanging match.

The attractions of the play are varied, and though great speeches are not abundant, there are echoes of lines and situations that evoke the best of Shakespeare. Timon amid the ragged trappings of Chris Dyer's nautical wilderness at the end is not unlike Lear, and there is a shadowy reflection of the warring exile Coriolanus in the character of Alcibiades, a soldier in sympathy with Timon and likewise an outcast from Athens.

Ned Chaillet

an eloquent performance

JOHN GIELGUD is

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Opera

Tosca

Covent Garden

Ten years ago a young man by the name of Placido Domingo made his Covent Garden debut as Cavaradossi, and on Monday he returned to the same house and the same role. But not quite as the same tenor. In 1971 Mr Domingo was hardly still a promising newcomer, but even so the last decade has seen a vast growth in his reputation, his achievements and the scope of his musicianship. He has surely recorded a greater number of parts than any other singer in the history of the gramophone, and he has extended himself beyond the Italian lyric tenor repertoire which is his natural homeland, to score great successes in French music, and even latterly in popular song and conducting.

What is most remarkable, after all this experience, is that he should still be performing with complete fresh-

ness. From his first entry on Monday he gave the impression that song is an easy and obvious mode of expression, flowing from his lips more readily than speech. There was simply no effort, and yet the power was always there for the voice to soar effortlessly over the orchestra. The effect might almost have been casual had phrasing and expression not been so precisely right yet utterly artless. And inevitably that supreme example encouraged excellent performances from Mr Domingo's companions in the opening scene, both newcomers to the production: John Tomlinson as a grim, determined Angelotti and John Gibbs as a Sacerdoti who was simple but not foolish.

Another surprise was that Cavaradossi is still a role that interests Domingo. In the second act he took the trouble to make a point in every little phrase, to extend a perfect line as he fell forward across the floor, never allowing torture to be an excuse for

wracked tone. And in the third, his great aria was built as a single arc, rising to fierce passion without ever losing the gentleness, the vulnerability that is this singer's great gift. Then in his apostrophe to Tosca there was a single of the most beautiful, telling quietness and candour.

As in 1971 his Tosca was Gwyneth Jones, most impressive here in her duel with Scarpia, where she used the flare in her voice to suggest not the tigress but a woman essentially innocent and very much afraid. Ingvar Wixell as the police chief was thus able to work around her like a bear of prey, booming or snarling, but always happy and a threat. The revival also boasts splendidly dramatic orchestral playing under Silvio Varviso, with the emphasis on detail: horns roaring through the texture in protest, solo clarinet or bassoon in eloquent support. But still this is really Mr Domingo's evening.

Paul Griffiths

Concert

Claudio Arrau

Festival Hall

The main point about Claudio Arrau's playing on Monday was its sense of structure. Of course, one's ear was ravished by his tone, unfailingly rounded and mellifluous, and by his seamless legato. But his perceptions were such as to bring the essential purpose of every note into focus, even when there were very many of them, as in Liszt's *Dante Sonata*; in fact especially there. This articulation of form was often very oblique, as in Beethoven's *Sonata, Op 27 No 1*, whose opening and some other passages were like a gentle, abstracted murmur.

Schumann's *Symphonic Studies* was in some respects the most problematic work on his programme. Obviously it contains great music, but it can sound ramshackle as a whole; though not this time. The different aspects of a performance such as Mr Arrau gave cannot, admittedly, be separated, but the feeling of

unity that one experienced from the first note to the last here was obviously related to the effortless flow of the actual piano playing.

Mr Arrau's repertoire has always been uncommonly large, and he took us to other worlds very different from those of Beethoven and Schumann. The *Estampes* exert a more directly sensuous appeal, but on this occasion *La Soiree dans Grenade* and *Jardins sous la pluie* were above all respectively slow and fast demonstrations of Debussy's great innovations relating to the structural role of tone-colour in music.

After hearing Mr Arrau's performance, one finds it difficult not to regard Chopin's *F Minor Fantasy* as his greatest work. Overwhelmingly the impression left was one of size; and this had nothing to do with leisurely tempos. Then a feast of musical virtuosity in Liszt's *Dante Sonata*.

Max Harrison

NT NATIONAL THEATRE (Cottesloe)

Arnold Wesker's new play

CARITAS

Patti Love (above), with Frederick Treves is

"DEVASTATING" (Guardian)

"REMARKABLE" (Times)

"BRILLIANT" (New Standard)

Max Harrison







Poland: making the banks happier, page 17

# Business News

THE TIMES Wednesday November 11 1981

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## Civil Service dispute may cost £500m

By John Whitmore, Financial Correspondent

The Civil Service pay dispute earlier this year appears to have cost the Government £250m, according to latest figures, and the final cost may reach £500m.

Figures for government borrowing to the end of October show that interest charges on the extra money borrowed to replace tax revenues held up by the dispute totalled £250m, and such charges, which are not recoverable, may double by the end of the financial year.

The worst of the inflationary impact on the money supply of the civil servants' dispute may be over, after a month that saw VAT repayments help boost sterling M3, the broad-based measure of money, by a further 14.13 per cent.

Figures released by the Treasury yesterday suggest that the net amount of tax money owing to the Exchequer is now on a firm downward path.

Not all the estimated £500m still owing at the end of October will be gathered in by the end of the present financial year, but the outstanding cost should fall steadily. As money flows to the Exchequer, so monetary growth should slacken—indeed, in some months the outstanding stock of money may even fall.

But it now appears absolutely clear that the Government is likely to finish the present year with money supply overshooting its target by several percentage points.

The target for the present financial year envisaged growth in sterling M3 (notes and coins in circulation, plus all sterling bank deposits held by United Kingdom residents) rising at an annual rate of 6-10 per cent in the 14 months to next April. But the Government has already used up the whole of the 10 per cent target in the eight months to mid-October.

Although this has been partly the result of the way in which the Civil Service dispute led to the private sector for being on to large amounts of tax funds throughout the summer, it is generally accepted that the underlying money supply has been growing too fast for comfort. This was fuelled largely by strong demand for bank credit from the personal sector, and was one of the factors leading to the large rise in interest rates recently.

The hope now is that the im-

## Monopoly inquiry on bid for Linfood

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

The bitterly-contested takeover bid of Linfood Holdings by Mr James Gulliver's Argill Foods is being referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. The move surprised Argill, which said it would be considering the full implications, and Linfood shares fell 10p to 166p.

But the referral—recommended by Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading and accepted by Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade—has come after concern in Whitehall over the concentration of purchasing power of big grocery multiples. The effect on the profitability of food manufacturing industry has been a main focus of concern.

The referral prompted speculation whether Mr Borrie will shortly recommend the commission's investigation of another big retail takeover now on his desk—F. W. Woolworth's bid for the Dodge City chain of do-it-yourself stores. The food sector is not involved, but the takeover would increase Woolworth's already large stake in the paint retail market.

The referral means Argill's bid is suspended until the commission reports within six months.

In its report last May on discounts to retailers, still being considered by Mr Borrie, the commission warned of the importance of keeping a particularly close watch on future mergers in the distributive trade. There were fears that further concentrations of buying power could lead to a handful of large multiples, to the disadvantage of smaller suppliers and also consumers.

The Argill-Linfood merger would give the combined company around 3 per cent of the grocery retail market through outlets such as Carrefour hypermarkets, Cordon Bleu freezer centres and Linfood's chain of 250 supermarkets.

But the combined wholesaling operation would be more substantial, possibly accounting for 18 per cent of that sector. Linfood supplies the VG and Spar symbol chains and has 86 cash-and-carry centres.

The commission report on discounts, which recommended against new legislative control of discounts given to big multiples, having found that the preferential rates secured were being fed through to consumers. The Office of Fair Trading could act in specific cases, the commission suggested.

Mr Borrie is still considering whether to issue conduct guidelines for buying by the multiples and granting of discounts by manufacturers. A code of practice agreed by the two sides is another possibility.

If Mr Biffen accepts the commission's report on discounts, it increases the likelihood that retail mergers of any size in the grocery sector will in future be referred to Monopolies investigations.

The Food Manufacturers' Federation, welcoming the Argill move yesterday, said it would be seen as a warning shot across the bows of others who might be contemplating takeovers.



Mr Horsley: denies bid for Avana

## Northern Foods issue aims to raise £42m

Northern Foods is asking shareholders for £42m in the first rights issue since the recent collapse in the stock market. The issue, to reduce borrowings and strengthen the capital base, is being underwritten by N. M. Rothschild, John brokers are Cazemove, and Scrimgeour Kemp-Ges.

Although the amount raised through rights issues this year has been running at record levels, the flow stopped abruptly in September as interest rates began to rise and the stock market fell sharply. The last big issue was launched by Fosco Minsep for £24m in September 17 and, in common with a number of other issues, a large part was left with the underwriters.

Northern's issue, which will yield £41.3m net of expenses, involves 33.9 million new shares, which are being offered at 125p on the basis of one new ordinary for every five held. Northern's shares closed 12p down at 146p yesterday.

Shares in Avana Group, where Northern recently increased its stake to 20.5 per cent, rose 6p to 146p on hopes that Northern would make a full bid. But this was firmly denied.

Financial Editor, page 17

## Commercial Union pretax profits cut by 26pc

By Our Financial Staff



Mr Jack Emms: downturn in underwriting results

A steep rise in underwriting losses has hit Commercial Union, one of Britain's largest insurance groups, and pretax profits for the nine months to the end of September were down by £21.5m to £60.2m, a fall of 26 per cent.

The rise in underwriting losses from £39m to £58.1m was largely because of losses in the United States where the short fall climbed from £23.4m to £69.1m and Canada where they more than doubled to £15.7m over the nine months.

In the United Kingdom losses of £13m were sustained against a profit of £500,000 in the first nine months of 1980. In the group's operations in the Netherlands losses mounted from £2.2m to £6.3m.

"High interest rates and depressed economic conditions in the major territories in which we operate have added to the

increased by £28.2m to £118.9m. Although the increase is about 30 per cent, a large proportion of it reflects foreign exchange movements and the underlying growth is 16 per cent. The strongest areas of growth were the United States and the United Kingdom.

In the United States premium income increased by 23 per cent and the statutory operating ratio was 109.6 per cent, showing a slight deterioration during the last quarter.

Premium growth in the United Kingdom was 14 per cent.

Commercial Union's investment income rose from £113.4m to £150.1m for the nine months. Net of loan interest, but after allowing for the effect of changes in rates of exchange and other factors, the underlying increase was 19 per cent, the statement added.

The results disappointed the stock market and the shares fell 5p to 135p.

## IMF moves quickly on Poland

From Bailey Morris, Washington, Nov 10

Poland formally applied to rejoin the International Monetary Fund from which it was forced to withdraw by the Soviet Union in March, 1950.

The Polish application comes just one week after the request by Hungary for membership of both the IMF and its sister lending agency, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, commonly known as the World Bank.

Of the Eastern European countries only Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia are at present members of the two lending institutions although both Poland and Czechoslovakia were members before the last war.

The Polish application, strongly supported by the United States and other Western nations, is expected to move quickly through the IMF's internal stages. The fund hopes to vote on the membership request in the next three months, an IMF spokesman said.

Poland at present owes more than \$24,000m to Western banks and governments and is unlikely to pay off its debts without external assistance, according to Mr C. William Miller, the former United States Secretary of Treasury who is chairman of the Polish-United States Economic Council.

It is precisely because of the external debt pressures that the Soviet Union has withdrawn its objections to Poland's announced desire to join the IMF, a fund spokesman said today.

"The only way Poland will ever be able to pay off its debts is to have a long-term economic stabilization programme. The IMF is in a far better position to work with the Poles than any group of Western banks and governments", Mr Miller said.

In the past, the Soviet Union has been opposed strongly to the idea of Poland appealing to the IMF for external financial aid.

## Oil companies press for BNOC price cut

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Leading oil companies are intensifying their pressure on the British National Oil Corporation to reconsider recent price rises which have boosted the cost of a barrel of Forties Field crude to \$36.50.

The state-owned corporation is being told by customers such as Shell, Esso and BP that the new price levels cannot be justified at a time when the market for oil products is declining.

BNOC increased its North Sea reference price by \$1.50 a barrel, backdated to November 1, after the decision last month by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to raise the price of light crude from \$32 to \$34 a barrel.

The increases have already forced a new round of petrol price rises in the United Kingdom. Esso will today follow BP, Texaco and Mobil in lifting prices possibly as high as £1.75 for a gallon of four-star.

The oil companies' main complaint against BNOC is that North Sea crude prices are now very close to those charged by the African producers, particularly Nigeria, whose oil is similar in quality.

Nigerian crude, it is argued, has always been 50 cents to \$1 more expensive than North Sea oil and the oil companies, particularly those with big downstream refining interests, want the differential restored.

The big refiners, struggling in the face of significant losses on their United Kingdom operations, say that the new \$2.50 North Sea premium over Saudi Arabian light crude prices is too high.

BNOC officials delayed setting the new prices until it became clear what level the Nigerians would choose. As a result of the Opec meeting, Algeria and Libya are allowed to charge up to \$38 a barrel and Nigeria \$37. However, in a bid to boost flagging exports, the Nigerians have fixed their November price at \$36.50.

The BNOC increase, although it failed to match the \$2 rise agreed by the Saudis, will still benefit the United Kingdom by more than £350m in additional tax revenue.

The Esso petrol price rise of 3.24p a gallon (including VAT) was not accompanied by a withdrawal of subsidies to retailers unlike BP Oil, which yesterday raised prices by only 2p a gallon but abandoned dealer support.

## Nexos ends Delphi pact with loss of 30 jobs

By Bill Johnstone and Anthony Hilton

Nexos, the office automation subsidiary of the British Technology Group (BTG), has ended its agreement with the Delphi Corporation of America, making about 30 people in Los Angeles and Bristol redundant.

The agreement with Delphi allowed the company to manufacture and market a telephone answering system exclusively in Europe. The jobs to be shed in Los Angeles and in Bristol are in the project development and engineering areas.

The news comes only 24 hours after the BTG announcement on forming a joint venture with Gesteira Holdings through the word processing side of Nexos.

Nexos yesterday said the company had decided to withdraw from the sale of large computer office systems in Los Angeles and Bristol.

"We have had an excellent working relationship with Delphi and it is with regret that we have decided to terminate this operation," Mr Muir Moffat, managing director of Nexos, said.

The agreement with Delphi, a subsidiary of Exxon, was signed in September 1979 and was reported at the time to have cost the group £2m.

## BSC awaits state funds

The EEC Commission is expected shortly to approve a further £360m of state funds to the British Steel Corporation.

So far this year the Commission has approved a total of £370m of the £730m allocated to the corporation as its external financing limit for the present financial year.

Commission approval of state funds is required in time with EEC rulings that state aids to the steel industry should be made on a reducing basis and eventually terminated.

The Commission's scrutiny of the latest tranche of finance for the corporation is set against discussions this week between the Commission, government representatives, steel producers and consumers over the proposed 15 per cent price increase year.

Corporation hopes to increase orders for subsea pipelines have been dealt a blow with Japanese and German steel producers securing the contract to supply £181m worth of steel pipe for the new Norwegian gas gathering pipeline.

## Bank drops dividend

Frankfurt, Nov 10.—Commerzbank AG, West Germany's third largest commercial bank, will not pay a dividend for 1981 after dropping a dividend payment for 1980. Herr Walter Seipp, the bank's managing director, said that the bank would be in balance on its 1981 operations and would not have to divert any assets to balance its accounts.

## Paribas man charged

M. Pierre Moussa, former chairman of the Paribas banking group, and three of his former colleagues, were charged in Paris yesterday with offences against the Customs and exchange regulations after Government allegations that the bank helped to transfer \$5,000 gold coins worth Fr29m to Canada illegally before legislation was enacted to nationalize the group.

## Stock Markets

FT Index 502.7 down 8.2  
Gilt 82.34 down 0.55  
FT All Share 303.96 down 2.15  
Bargains 19.159

## Sterling

\$1.8670 down 2.55  
Index 89.1 down 0.2

## Dollar

Index 107.5 up 0.8  
DM 2.2330 up 240 pts

## Gold

\$415 down \$14.50

## Money

3 mth sterling 151-141  
3 mth Euro 1318-141  
6 mth Euro 1314-141

## PRICE CHANGES

Rises	Falls
Atlantic Resc 20p to 230p	Anal Metal 15p to 555p
BRA Gr 3p to 34p	Barrow Rand 18p to 410p
British Sugar 10p to 230p	Brit & Comm 9p to 308p
Extel Group 10p to 230p	Coast Gold Flds 12p to 468p
Gas & Oil Ace 15p to 395p	De La Rue 12p to 685p
Gill & Duffie 6p to 165p	Grosvet 15p to 453p
Northgate Expt 20p to 385p	Kwik Fit 12p to 51p
Pretoria P Cem 11p to 56p	Linfood 11p to 166p
Serck 15p to 350p	Newmarket L 12p to 146p
Smiths Ind 7p to 262p	Polly Pk 15p to 365p
Ultramar 8p to 91p	R72 15p to 385p
Warrington T 10p to 174p	Hand Mine Prod 12p to 56p
Watts Blake 10p to 195p	Strong & Fisher 10p to 635p
Wholesale Fils 10p to 240p	Unilever

## New protest on air fares

A further complaint has been lodged with the EEC Commission over its inability to break up the airline fares cartel in Europe.

Lord Bethell, chairman of the Freedom of the Skies Campaign and MEP for London North-west, has written a letter to Mr Gaston Thorn, Commission president, that there had been no "significant" response to his original submission on price rigging and other monopoly practices of airlines operating in Europe.

Lord Bethell originally complained in May 1980 that airlines were breaking the Treaty of Rome.

## Whitbread sales fall 7.5 per cent

Whitbread, Britain's largest brewer with around 15 per cent of the market, saw its drink sales fall by nearly 7.5 per cent, against a national average of 6.5 per cent, in the six months to last August. Since then, it says it has again put sales first, but recession is keeping trade tough.

Pre-tax profits rose from £35.5m to £38.5m but this was entirely due to a saving in interest charges as the group took in a further £10m from the sale of the Chiswell Street City property. Whitbread employs 37,000 workers. It shed 600 of them in the half year as part of a continuing brewery closure programme.

Financial Editor, page 17

## BUSINESS BRIEFING

### Call to stop Linwood sale

The Government is to be urged today to stop the sale of the former Talbot car factory at Linwood, near Glasgow. Mr Norman Buchan, Labour MP for West Renfrewshire, will call for a public inquiry into alternative uses for the plant, which closed this year with the loss of more than 4,000 jobs.

Local Labour Party leaders and trade unionists are expected to demonstrate outside the factory next Monday at the start of a 10-day auction of tools and equipment. The sale could raise £10m and a local action group says that if the factory cannot be put to other uses, the money should not go to the PSA group, Talbot's French parent company, but into a trust to stimulate local employment.

Talbot said yesterday that the Linwood operation lost £20m last year, and a similar amount was spent on redundancy payments "and there is no way we can recover that through the auction". The factory site would probably be sold next year, he added.

### £750,000 for electronics

The Department of Industry and the Scottish Development Agency are giving £750,000 to Inmap, a company formed by Edinburgh and Heriot-Watt Universities to promote the industrial application of microelectronics.

Inmap will use the money to establish a permanent information and exhibitions centre; run seminars, initially at a rate of 30 a year; and visit Scottish companies—about 250 in the first year—to advise on the application of microelectronics.

### Save round the clock

Scottish Trustee Savings Bank is moving to 24-hour banking with the installation of Philip's automated teller machines which allow customers to use debit facilities, as well as withdraw cash, round the clock. Eighteen machines have been installed, with 38 to come.

### Ex-minister's job

Mr Sam Sillan, MP, the former Labour Attorney-General, has been appointed a director of the British Printing Corporation.

### Swiss takes over BIS

Dr Fritz Leutwiler, right, 57-year-old president of the Swiss national bank, was named yesterday as the next chairman and president of the Bank for International Settlements, the central bankers' bank. He will take over at the beginning of next year when Dr Jelle Zijlstra, who has held the post 14 years, retires as President of the Dutch national bank.

Lord O'Brien, former governor of the Bank of England, paid tribute at a BIS board meeting in Brussels yesterday to Dr Zijlstra's role in increasing the bank's assets.

### INTERIM STATEMENT

Amounts are expressed in thousands of pounds			
	1981/82	1980/81	
	Half Year	Half Year	Full Year
Sales:	£'000	£'000	£'000
Security	77,558	62,599	139,857
Crosfield Electronics	14,288	18,855	36,401
	91,846	81,454	176,258
Exports	48,168	43,354	95,148
Trading profit:			
Security	11,556	6,982	21,373
Crosfield Electronics	(5,677)	1,322	474
	5,879	8,304	21,847
Group net interest received and surplus arising on Central Management charges	1,085	1,864	2,939
Group trading profit	6,964	10,168	24,766
As percentage of sales	7.6%	12.5%	14.1%
Share of profits of associated companies	3,546	4,295	8,218
Profit before tax	10,510	14,461	33,004
Profit after tax	8,328	12,451	30,328
Minority interests	593	372	838
Profit attributable to The De La Rue Company p.l.c.	8,235	12,079	29,490
Less Provision of Preference dividend	6	6	12
Profit attributable to Ordinary shareholders	8,229	12,073	29,478
Earnings per Ordinary share	21.6p	31.7p	77.4p



## France may sign Soviet gas deal

From Michael Parrot  
Paris, November 10

The French Government has disregarded a last ditch attempt by the United States to prevent its planned purchase of 8,000 cubic metres a year of gas from the Soviet Union.

A delegation led by Mr. Michel Raskin, the United States Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, has just been in Paris suggesting alternative ways in which France might meet its energy needs. But the French Government was reportedly unimpressed.

Among the proposals put forward by Mr. Raskin were an increase in United States coal deliveries, collaboration between the two countries in synthetic technology and the use of alternative natural gas supply sources.

According to a recent study made by the EEC Commission in Brussels, the new contract would make France dependent on Soviet gas for 26 per cent of its requirements in 1990. Without the contract the 1990 dependence would only be 9 per cent.

The contract with the Soviets could be signed before the end of the year.

## EAST BLOCK TRADE WARNING

Paris Nov 10. — American and Western companies that do business in Eastern Europe have been warned by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development to be wary over the terms imposed by their Communist trading partners.

In an unusually candid study the OECD declares that unbalanced acceptance of "countertrade" terms by Western companies may undermine the basis of international trade. The document expressed concern that East European states will step up pressure to finance their purchases from the West in countertrade, which requires a Western supplier to accept partial or total payment in goods or services.

## Whitehall cool on cable TV expansion

As a new plea was made to the Government yesterday to deregulate cable television and so allow nationwide expansion, Lord Belstead, Minister of State at the Home Office responsible for broadcasting, made it clear that the Home Secretary is not yet prepared to move.

He admitted, however, that if satellite broadcasts began, cable television could gain because this method of tapping such broadcasts could avoid unsightly proliferation of antennae.

The Cable Television Association will shortly present to the Government plans for further development of subscription television by cable, Mr. Maurice Townsend, the association's chairman, said.

A dozen pilot experiments in subscription television are now just starting in which additional services, mainly of recent film releases, are being offered, as well as BBC and independent television broadcasts.

Mr. Townsend added: "We now regard the development of cable television as a matter of inevitability rather than viability. Self-regulation is, moreover, the most appropriate form of control: we do not want standards of broadcasting to drop."

Lord Belstead said: "Broadcasting in this country has to work within what is acceptable to the public generally and government has to take this requirement very seriously into account."

Much had been made of the widespread development of cable television in the United States but there were differences in the United Kingdom, he went on.

"We have a system of public service broadcasting which is highly regarded and which is aiming to provide increased coverage and a wider range of programmes," he said.

It was not yet clear how far consumers would want to use



Lord Belstead yesterday: Home Secretary not yet prepared to move

other services which could be offered by cable links, from monitoring one's bank account to sending in orders to the local shop, Lord Belstead continued. But the launching of the pilot subscription schemes showed that it was possible to take a positive line even at this stage of development.

All this is part of the manoeuvring as the Government moves nearer to a consideration of whether to modify its restrictive policies on cable television. There are to be consultations with the Government soon.

By 1990 over 30 per cent of West European homes will be linked to cable networks, though the proportion in the United Kingdom could be even higher.

Plessey and Rediffusion are among British companies exploring how the commercial experience of the Americans could be adopted in this country, providing the Home Office can be persuaded to relax its rigid controls over what can be transmitted by cable and who is allowed to operate such a service.

## Aerospace industry poised to copy car makers Japanese all set for take-off

From Peter Hazellurst, Tokyo Nov 10

Japan, already the world's leading producer of cars, steel, ships and electronic consumer goods, is moving rapidly into one of the West's last preserves, the aerospace industry. Japan cannot yet match Western aircraft manufacturers, but there is increasing evidence that, as in the car and electronic industries in the 1970s, Japan is beginning to lay down the foundation for a quick expansion in aviation.

The Federal Aviation Administration in Washington has just provided Mitsubishi Heavy Industries with a certificate to export a knocked-down nine-seat executive jet airliner, known as the MU300 Series, to the United States.

Japan's other prospective partners in its most ambitious aviation project are reported to be the American McDonnell Douglas corporation, Fokker of the Netherlands and the European consortium, Airbus Industrie.

Although Japan does not intend to

export a made-up version of the proposed airliner present, the project rules out any chance that Japan's present medium aircraft, the YS-11, will be replaced with Britain's BAC-111 or the medium-range Fokker.

The uninitiated outsider sees Japanese industry in terms of cars, motor cycles and television sets, but the country is already manufacturing a large number of military aircraft, aero engines and space rockets. They include the P-15 fighter, which is being manufactured by Mitsubishi and other partners under licence; Nike missiles; the fuselage of a military transport plane; an anti-submarine helicopter, the HSS-2; and a variety of other missiles.

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries is manufacturing at least seven types of jet and turbo-jet engines and has also manufactured the American F-4EJ fighter under licence. American pilots who have flown the Japanese version of the fighter claim the finish is superior to that of the American-made models.

Another consortium, consisting of Mitsubishi, Ishikawajima-Harima Heavy Industries and Kawasaki Heavy Industries, is collaborating with Rolls-Royce in developing the new RJ500 jet engine, designed to power a medium-haul aircraft with a capacity of 120 to 160 seats. The three Japanese partners will produce half the engine's components in Japan and Rolls-Royce will manufacture the other parts and assemble the engine in Britain.

Another sign of the move into the aerospace industry is the little known fact that Japan has already put its own rockets and geostatic satellites into space.

Japan's National Space Development Agency plans to put a shuttle into space within the next nine years. An official said: "It will be smaller than the Columbus. But we hope it will be more advanced. It will be equipped with a jet engine which provides the craft with power to fly when it reenters the atmosphere."

## Jobless walk out on America's car capital

Detroit, Nov 10. — The jobless are pulling out of America's car capital in an exodus which highlights the grimness of the recession and the problems of the country's motor industry.

Some of the migrants are heading south and west to the so-called sun-belt where small town newspapers advertising new jobs are increasingly sold on Detroit's newsstands.

Others are moving because it is easier to find a job almost anywhere else in the United States.

Michigan was once one of the wealthiest of America's 50 states. But what is bad for General Motors is bad for Michigan. The state whose fortunes are inextricably entwined with the car industry is today faced with an economic crisis.

Over 26,000 children in the state found themselves last month with nowhere to go. Their schools had gone bankrupt because voters in three districts refused to approve a local tax increase.

One of the three districts had a change of heart and approved funds to reopen its schools. But then voters refused to approve funds for

school buses and many of 6,800 pupils in the rural area will have to walk to get to their classrooms.

Psychiatric hospitals are laying off staff just as admissions are rising. Even workers in unemployment offices are losing their jobs.

In Detroit, the symbol of the city's civic pride, a soaring glass skyscraper complex known as the Renaissance Centre, has been hit by heavy losses. This centre of towers of luxury hotel rooms, offices and smart shops cost \$357m (£190m) to build four years ago.

Today it has losses amounting to \$100m and some luxury stores, Cartier and Courreges among them, have moved away.

Fruitless

America's leading car manufacturers are struggling with some desperation to overcome the effects of recession, sky-high interest rates, a sluggish economy and the competition of cheaper foreign cars.

But the result of their fight is not yet apparent. General Motors' third-quarter loss was \$468m, much grimmer news

than expected. Chrysler lost \$149m and Ford \$334m.

For a jobless car worker such as John Warren, the result is a long, fruitless search for work.

"I don't know where to look — I've tried everywhere but there's nothing for me. It's a lot of stress. It is very depressing," he said at his local trade union branch in Detroit where he sought a job.

John Warren's last regular job was at a Chrysler plant a year ago. At his union branch, fewer than three in 10 of the 2,600 members have jobs.

"Michigan is fighting for its economic life. The recession may be slight for the nation but it is absolutely staggering for Michigan," Governor William Milliken said recently.

The governor has ordered a \$270m cut in the state's budget, the biggest single cut in its history.

Since January, 1980, Michigan has had America's highest unemployment rate. More than 500,000 people, 11.7 per cent of the workforce, are now out of work.

Five of the 11 metropolitan

areas in the United States with the highest unemployment rate are in Michigan.

These are the towns stretching north from Detroit to Saginaw which form the backbone of the car industry, making everything from seatbelts to mirrors to transmissions.

In Flint, where General Motors began, the unemployment rate was 15.1 per cent last month, highest of any metropolitan area in the country and nearly twice the national average.

'Hungry'

More than 345,000 jobless workers have run out of unemployment benefits since Michigan's slump began in October, 1979.

President Reagan's spending cuts on social services have only worsened the crisis for Michigan, where nearly 12 per cent of the residents are on some form of state or federal welfare.

"Old people in this city will be hungry this winter," Detroit's Mayor, Mr. Coleman Young said.

About 70 factories, not all in the car industry, closed last year across the state, according to trade union officials.

The only thing which has boomed in Michigan is crime. In the first six months of 1981, major crimes in Detroit rose 12.5 per cent.

With forecasts of continuing financial trouble for years ahead, it looks as though a well-known car bumper sticker could soon be making a comeback: "Don't leave Detroit please put the lights out." — Reuter.

## IN BRIEF

### Champagne group eyes Dior fashion

Moët-Hennessy, the French champagne and cognac group which acquired the Christian Dior perfume company 10 years ago, now has its eyes on the Christian Dior fashion house itself, part of the struggling Boussac St. Germain group.

M. Alain Chevalier, the managing director, said yesterday in London that proposals had been put to the French Government under which Moët-Hennessy would take over Dior couture with the backing of the state with the reorganization group IDI and other financial interests.

Moët-Hennessy is expected to put in at least £50m (£4.7m) and eventually may try for complete control of the fashion house. But the French Government has not yet responded to the proposal, M. Chevalier said.

### Peugeot talks

Peugeot is to start talks with the unions to try to avert a strike at its Sochaux plant outside Paris. Workers in the body shop voted to occupy the workshop from tomorrow to protest over an increased work load and to support demands for five weeks of holiday and a 33-hour working week.

### Renault dispute ends

Workers in the Renault mystery shop at the St. Omer plant have voted to accept a management offer on pay and work conditions and return to work, ending a two-month dispute.

### Steel production up

French steel production increased 2.2 per cent in October from a year ago to 1,743,000 metric tons, bringing the first 10-month total to 17,819,000 tons, or 10.9 per cent below the corresponding 1980 period.

### More Ecuador oil

Ecuador's oil production for the 10 months ended October 31 was 64.1 million barrels against 62.1 million barrels over the same period last year.

### Fewer dealers

The number of United States car dealers handling American makes has fallen to 21,187 from 21,945 last year.



## WHITBREAD AND COMPANY LIMITED

### Half Year Report

Results for the six months ended 29th August 1981

Whitbread and Company Limited announce unaudited Profits for the six months to 29th August, 1981, and an Interim Dividend of 2.25 pence per share (1980/81—2.1 pence), which represents an increase of 7.1%. The Interim Dividend will be paid on 8th January, 1982, to Shareholders on the Register at close of business on 4th December, 1981.

#### Turnover and Profits

The consolidated turnover for the six months was £415,080,000, an increase of 7% over the same period last year. Profit before tax and extraordinary items was £38,535,000 and Profit after Tax was £29,608,000, showing an increase of 8.5% and a decrease of 4.8% respectively.

#### Share Issue

The Directors are recommending a one for two scrip issue thereby raising the issued share capital of the Company to a level more in line with the overall value of the Ordinary Shareholders' funds. To allow for the scrip issue, it will be necessary to increase the authorised share capital to £135 million and an Extraordinary General Meeting will take place on 8th December, 1981, to consider these proposals.

#### Trade

Trading conditions continue to be difficult, and, with the present economic climate, there are few signs of an upturn in beer trade. Competition throughout the industry has intensified, and the balance that we have to achieve rests between maintaining our market share and keeping up our margins. A cost reduction programme to keep costs in line with the level of trading has necessitated the closure of several production plants.

We have continued to increase the number of local ales that we produce and they are performing well. Trophy bitter remains the largest single selling brand of draught ale in the U.K.

Lager sales have suffered from the general recession, but both Heineken and Stella Artois continue in their dominant positions in their market sectors. Gold Label remains the leading strong ale in the country, and Kaltenberg Diat Pils is making significant inroads in the Bottled beer market.

Spirit sales in the U.K. have been affected by the recession, but Long John continues its success in the export whisky market. Sales of table wine showed an increase in the half year, and our new Wine Box is in great demand.

Brewery, Chiswell Street, London EC1Y 4SD

	6 months to 29.8.81	6 months to 30.8.80
Turnover	415,080	387,976
Profit before depreciation and funding charges	54,823	53,412
Deduct: Depreciation	(12,406)	(10,258)
Interest	(6,232)	(9,133)
Receivable	161	(40)
Gain (Loss) on Foreign Exchange	36,351	33,971
Trading Profit	2,184	1,537
Income from Trade Investments	38,535	35,508
Profit before Taxation and Extraordinary Items	(8,927)	(4,420)
Taxation	29,608	31,088
Profit before Extraordinary Items	219	255
Extraordinary items, less Taxation attributable thereto	29,827	31,343
Profit after Extraordinary Items	(22)	20
Attributable to Members of Holding Company	29,805	31,363
Preference Stock Dividend	(207)	(208)
Profit Attributable to Ordinary Shareholders	29,598	31,155
Interim Dividend on Ordinary Shares	5,696	5,297
Interim Dividend—Pence per Share	2.25p	2.10p
Earnings—Pence per Share—Basic	11.60p	12.28p
Fully Diluted	11.50p	12.22p

NOTES: To ensure comparability of the two half years' results, the figures previously published for the half year 1980 have been amended as follows—  
1. £1.34 million previously charged against Trading Profits is now included under Extraordinary Items net of tax reflecting the accounting policy adopted for the full year 1980/81.  
2. Taxation has been adjusted to reflect the net rate of taxation on the year's profits.

The Beefeater Steak House expansion programme is continuing and trading profit performance is encouraging.

#### The Future

Until the economy improves, we anticipate the present trend in beer volumes will continue. Meanwhile we are maintaining our trading investment policy, which with our rationalisation programme, makes us confident that we shall be ready to take our full share of the improvement in future trading conditions when the time comes.

## Arenson plunges in tough trading year

By Our Financial Staff

Competitive trading in the furniture industry prompted by the collapse in consumer demand slashed profits at A. Arenson (Holdings) last year.

Arenson, which claims one of the most advanced furniture making plants in Europe, suffered a near 20 per cent drop in sales which cut pretax profits from £1.5m to £68,000. Sales in the year to July fell from £17m to £13.9m. This reflected a 25 per cent drop in demand, while production during the period ran at about 60 per cent of capacity.

Since the year end, Arenson has lost one of its flat-pack customers, MFI Furniture, whose orders at one time represented 25 per cent of total sales. Mr. Archy Arenson, chairman, says that this was due to differences over pricing policy. MFI says it found cheaper products from other manufacturers.

After the group lost £14,000 against profits of £1.4m. Although there are no signs of improved trading shareholders are getting a

### Folkes Hefo cuts payout after loss

By Margaret Pagano

After six months of closures and redundancies designed to cut costs, the Midlands engineering and property group John Folkes Hefo has plunged into the red.

Hefo plunged from a pretax profit of £1.4m to a £385,000 loss in the half-year to June. Sales in the period fell by £10m to £29.8m. Shareholders get a reduced half-time gross dividend of 0.5p against 0.7p and the group's shares fell 15p to 14½p.

On top of measures taken over the last 18 months to counter depressed demand and tight margins, the group is taking vigorous action to cut costs. In the last six months Hefo, which runs the country's largest open die forgings, has closed one company and reduced its workforce by 9 per cent. Last year 400 employees lost their jobs leaving 2,600 on the engineering side.

Mr. Constantine Hefo, who became chairman in August on the retirement of Mr. James Hearnshaw, said yesterday that further action was being taken.

### Raglan to expand with £1m deal

By Baron Phillips

The once beleaguered Raglan Property Trust, which has not paid a dividend since 1973, is expanding through its proposed acquisition of the privately owned Dido Investments.

Shareholders were told at yesterday's annual meeting that the cost of the acquisition would be met through the issuing of 13,625m new shares, equivalent to just over £1m.

Dido is a private investment property company owning 15 retail units producing £58,000 income. Most of the shares being issued for the acquisition have been conditionally placed with four institutional investors, including Kleinwort Benson, which already holds 3.2 per cent of Raglan's stock. Shareholders are being offered shares on a one-for-two basis at 7½p a share.

At the same time Raglan announced first-half results to September 30 vastly improved from the previous period. Profits before tax rose to £122,000 from £30,000 in the first half last year and £109,000 for the full year.

### Business appointments

#### John Laing chief to retire

Sir Maurice Laing intends to retire as chief executive of John Laing & Co. at the group's annual meeting next June, but will remain an active member of the board and has accepted the invitation to the board to become president from that date. Mr. L. J. Holliday will become chief executive on January 1, and chairman after Sir Maurice's retirement. Mr. Laing's retirement was announced by Mr. J. A. Renshaw and Mr. R. A. Wood have become directors.

Barclays Bank International as group adviser on export credits. Mr. Cornhill retired in June as deputy to the secretary of the Export Credits Guarantee Department, where he was in charge of the projects group for ten years. Mr. J. B. Young is now chairman of Wear Pumps. The post is in addition to that of group managing director which he has held since 1974. Mr. Piers Godfrey has been made a director of River and Mercantile Trust.



## Co-op Bank announces a change in base rate

From 15.50% to 15.00% p.a.

With effect from

Wednesday, 11th November 1981

Deposit Rates will become:

7 day deposits 13.00% p.a.

1 month deposits 13.25% p.a.

Short-term deposits

from 14.00% to 15.60% p.a.

depending on amount & term

(minimum £500 & 6 months)



Your caring sharing bank

## Hill Samuel Base Rate

With effect from the close of

business on November 11th, 1981,

Hill Samuel's Base Rate for

lending will be reduced from

15½ per cent to 15 per cent

per annum.

Interest payable on the Bank's

Demand Deposit Accounts will be

at the rate of 13 per cent per

annum.

Hill Samuel & Co. Limited

100 Wood Street, London EC2P 2AL

Telephone: 01-628 8011





BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Transatlantic trials for CU

An air of déjà vu hangs over the nine months of figures of Commercial Union. In 1975 CU sustained a loss and in climbing out of the problems, mainly caused by expansion in the United States, it dispensed with the services of its then chief general manager. Then came a rights issue in 1977 for £73.8m. Now the group looks as if it will for the third year running experience a downturn in profits, again thanks principally to the drive for business in the United States.

For the first nine months of the current year underwriting losses have leapt from £39m to £98.1m. In the United States the losses have risen from £23.4m to £59.1m, and the story of a worsening of the position on the underwriting side is repeated in the other main areas of the group such as the United Kingdom, The Netherlands and Canada. High interest rates and depressed economic conditions in the main territories in which the group operates have added to the general cyclical downturn on the underwriting side. No amount of detailed analysis can disguise the fact that this is a poor performance.

Fortunately investment income, net of loan interest, showed a useful rise from £106.8m to £142.9m. Equally happily the group has a relatively low tax charge of around 28 per cent. So attributable profits for shareholders come out at £47.1m against £56.7m even though at the pretax level the position looks worse with profits down £21.5m to £50.2m.

The drive for premium growth in the United States and the United Kingdom is paying off in terms of volume. The underlying growth, stripping out foreign exchange complications, is 16 per cent. But the price the group is paying for that growth is clearly profitability. The stock market in its collective wisdom clearly dislikes the way Commercial Union is going. At 135p the historic yield is no less than 11.9 per cent which with no prospect of dividend growth is the only thing going for the shares at present.

After only seven months of the present target period for monetary growth, sterling M3 has already breached its implied ceiling (£75,500m) for the full fourteen months of the exercise. An estimated rise of 14-15 per cent for the sterling M3 in the latest banking month must have pushed the outstanding total at mid-October up to about £75,800m. That, incidentally, represents an annualized rate of growth since last February, the base month of the present target period, of 19 per cent.

Just how badly the figures have been distorted by the effects of the civil service dispute remains anyone's guess. With any luck there may be several months over the rest of the year that produce monetary contraction — markets pinning their hopes on November being the first of them. What does seem clear, however, is that there is going to be some degree of overshoot for the period as a whole and that raises the question of the extent to which this is likely to effect the way the Government plays the interest rate game from here on.

One assumption must be that any excessive "underlying" growth in money supply so far this year will tend to be regarded as water under the bridge. In other words, so long as the absolute numbers look reasonable enough over the coming months, there is unlikely to be any move to prevent sterling interest rates following dollar rates downwards this winter — provided, of course, that is the way the latter are headed.

### Whitbread

#### A flat brew

The big brewers have already shown what they can do to keep profits moving by cutting costs and raising prices during the present recession, and something extra is needed to impress the stock market now. This Whitbread failed to provide yesterday with its figures for the half year to August, and the shares shed 4p to 158p. The £38m net profit in pre-tax profits was matched by the fall in interest payable. And in trading terms Whitbread has all but stood still, because the interest saving simply reflected a further £10m instalment of the £25m receivable over three years from the sale of the Chiswell Street property. In possessing such an income,

Whitbread is unique among brewers. In one respect the market was a trifle unkind. The summer weather remained bad throughout Whitbread's six months. It only began to get better in September.

The quantity of beer drunk nationally in the six months fell 6.6 per cent and Whitbread, intent on holding margins, let its market share of around 15 per cent slip, so that its own fall in sales was nearly 7.5 per cent. In attempting to hold margins Whitbread clearly finds the going tough. It put up prices in its own houses, but the free trade, suffers from keen price cutting.

Apart from the proceeds of the Chiswell sale, Whitbread should score over other big brewers in still having a dozen breweries. Whereas others make do with only three or four so that there should be some rationalization benefits. But if Whitbread is a guide, as the first brewer in the reporting season, the sector is unlikely to outperform the market in the run up to the next Budget. There are few signs of consumption picking up, and profits from gaming machines are not what they were.

### Pensions

#### Decision day approaches

The Government must soon make up its mind on the terms of the rebate it will offer those pension schemes which contract out of the State earnings-related scheme. The decision will not be easy.

On the one hand it is faced with the political commitment to encourage both individuals and companies in the private sector to be self-sufficient in pension provision. On the other the temptation to induce companies to contract back into the State scheme, thereby channelling a potential £3,000m a year in contributions, back into the State's coffers, must be considerable.

The National Association of Pension Funds believes that the terms proposed by the Government in its recent report, if adopted, unmodified provide just such an incentive for employers to rejoin the State scheme and not unnaturally, the NAPP believes this is not a good thing.

Details of the calculations are complex but the disagreement between the Government Actuary and the NAPP, which aired its grievances yesterday, boils down to whether the rebate offered to employers who opt out of the State scheme should be reduced from 7 per cent of National Insurance contributions to 6 per cent (as the Government Actuary suggests) or to 6.5 per cent, as the NAPP would like to see.

The NAPP is of the opinion that at 6.5 per cent it would be sufficient to cover the employers' liabilities, but not over generous — at 6 per cent there would be a positive incentive to contract back into the State scheme. The Government is obliged to give twelve months notice of the new terms for contracting out and the deadline is April 1982.

The market's reflex reaction to the £43m rights issue from Northern Foods was to mark up Avana's shares. But apart from the fact that that Northern has again denied any bid intentions here, Avana is now capitalizing at £35m which would make it quite a mouthful and bid could also lead to problems as both groups are main suppliers to Marks and Spencer.

So, for the moment, a Northern bid for Avana seems about as likely as Northern getting involved in the shenanigans elsewhere in the food manufacturing sector. In fact the reasons behind the rights issue are more mundane. Northern's September 1980 balance sheet showed £47m net debt against £118m of shareholders' funds, largely reflecting the Bluebird acquisition in the United States, and the high interest rates across the Atlantic have been an important factor in the rather flat second half the group has had in the year to September 30. The profit forecast of £34m suggests only a marginal second half gain.

The rights issue will bring the debt equity ratio back to single figures and allow scope for future acquisitions, while capital spending should be covered by cash flow. Future acquisitions are likely to be in the value-added sectors of the food industry here or in the States where Northern has met with success so far.

Two announcements this week have thrown the role of the International Monetary Fund sharply into focus. "Times" writers examine Poland's application to join the organization and the record loan being made to India.

## Poland: making the banks a little happier

Poland's move to join the International Monetary Fund can do little in the short term to relieve the country's chronic cash crisis. But if the talks beginning in Washington today finally lead to Poland becoming a member of the IMF and the World Bank they could mark an important step along what is bound to be a long and difficult road back to financial respectability.

Whatever the quota that Poland would receive as a member of the IMF, the borrowing facilities attached to it would pale into insignificance against the country's vast accumulated burden of hard currency debt. Poland's hard currency debt is estimated at about \$27,000m (about £14,200m). Some \$14,100m are owed to banks in 14 industrialized countries and certain key offshore centres that report to the Bank for International Settlements in Basle. Most of the rest is owed to governments — mainly in the West but also in Third World countries like Brazil and the eastern block.

Despite two agreements — one in April and another last month — to reschedule the official and commercial bank debt falling due this year, Poland has enormous and unfulfillable cash requirements. Western bankers have said that in an ideal world the country should have a cash injection of \$10,000m this year. This sum, which Poland has no chance of receiving, is about \$4,400m more than the record-breaking loan granted by the IMF to India this week.

But membership of the IMF would have positive effects. Poland would become a far more acceptable partner for the 460 western banks to which it owes money and with which it will have to negotiate next year — and in following years — in order to reschedule its debt further.

The ability of Poland's bankers to agree last month on the terms for rescheduling the private debt falling due this year was a minor miracle of solidarity. One bank declaring Poland in default could have brought the whole tottering edifice of Poland's debt crashing down with incalculable results for the international banking system.

But throughout the negotiations many banks were concerned of the policy and poor quality of the information that the Poles were able to give them on economic developments in their own country. Although a team of western bank economists is touring Poland this week as part of an agreement between the Poles and their creditor banks to provide facilities for on-the-spot monitoring of Poland's recovery efforts, the ability of the International Monetary Fund to gain access to Polish economic data would be far more reassuring.

Furthermore the IMF, if it were to lend money to the Poles, could be expected to make its financial support subject to conditions covering economic policy — a capacity that has been outside the range of any western bank no matter how powerful. Considerations such as these could help to keep Poland's bankers contented, if not happy, at a time when many are suffering from pressure on their profits. The temptation of one or another bank to break ranks and declare the country in default would therefore be reduced.

In the view of many Western bankers, Poland would become a far more acceptable partner for the 460 western banks to which it owes money and with which it will have to negotiate next year — and in following years — in order to reschedule its debt further.

The timing of the announcement, so soon after last week's news that Hungary, the best managed state in the Comecon block, is applying to join the IMF and World Bank, suggests that the Soviet Union is supporting the Polish bid to join the two bodies.

But the presence of a Polish Finance Ministry delegation at the IMF headquarters in Washington will not in itself be enough to persuade bankers and western governments to adopt a more generous policy towards the Poles.

Peter Norman



Old and new, rich and poor in India.

Photographed by Sophie Taylor

## India: energy a high priority

New Delhi

The record \$5,800m (£3,000m) loan to India approved by the International Monetary Fund is a welcome injection of money into the economy. For some time New Delhi has been feeling the burden of ever-increasing oil prices and its heavy yearly fuel bill, the equivalent of nearly £1,500m, has been upsetting the balance of payments. The trade gap is nearly £3,000m and the government is likely to divert part of the loan to fill the gap.

Since the oil purchases are a drain on India's foreign exchange resources, New Delhi proposes to spend the loan chiefly on oil exploration. The proposal is to import machinery and rigs for exploration and drilling and areas like Assam and the Godavari Basin have been selected for this purpose. The production from Bombay High is likely to be increased. The aim is to cut the import of crude oil by £600m in a year.

Part of loan is to be earmarked for two big thermal power plants, one of them near the Korba coalfield in Madhya Pradesh. A few more power stations are also planned and since India's public sector undertakings, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited and National Thermal Power Corporation, are behind the scheme, the government proposes to import some of them.

In fact, Mr Ghani Khan Chaudhry, the energy minister, said a few days ago that India would be forced to import new equipment.

Since India proposes a big increase in agricultural production — it imported five million tonnes of food grains from America this year — a sizable part of the loan is likely to be spent in this field. The agricultural ministry officials say that they have already put up the proposals "which involve foreign exchange".

Mr R Venkataraman, India's finance minister, has said that the loan would give "a boost to the economy" and would help in overcoming the strain on the balance of payments.

Finance Ministry officials have said that it would be possible for the government to allocate funds to essential projects in the six five-year plan.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, MP, Mrs Gandhi's son, also gave an indication how the loan would be used. He told foreign press representatives that the loan would be used to bring down prices, "and we want to set up core industries for which we require foreign exchange".

It is true that the loan will help India's economy, which is beginning to show strains because of the paucity of foreign exchange, and plans are already there for using it. But the military top brass have been waiting for the loan and have their shopping lists ready.

IMF officials will keep an eye on how the loan is spent and there is no question of the loan being diverted for armaments. But if the bill for development is partly met by a foreign loan the pressure on India's own resources will lessen to that extent. The deal for the 50 Mirage aircraft

which Mrs Gandhi proposes to sign in Paris in the next few days may come from India's own earnings or from a loan by France, but the money is from the same kitty.

India sees the loan as a tactical victory, because it was expecting America to lay down stiffer conditions, but instead has preferred to abstain. A finance ministry official commented "our be-

Gandhi's critics in the last few months. The government will have to do much explaining and the parliamentary session beginning on November 23 will see the opposition crossing swords with Treasury ministers on the loan.

The Communists, particularly, believe that the Government has "sold the country" in accepting "harsh terms" for the loan and they believe that America must have exacted its pound of flesh. Their suspicion is that the Indian public sector will be diluted in favour of the private sector and that foreign capital will begin to play a dominant role in the country's future development.

The devaluation of the rupee has been ruled out because of its political implications and also because of the external value of the rupee to a basket of currencies which virtually gives it a floating exchange rate.

The Government is silent on what conditions it has accepted. Its contention is that it wanted "to correct that balance of payments" and has got the loan to do so. "No condition which is derogatory to the country has been accepted," officials say.

### Kuldip Nayar

hind-the-scenes efforts have won and America by and large has accepted our explanation."

There is a general belief that Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi prepared the ground when she met president Reagan at the North-South summit in Cancun, Mexico, last month. Stories leaked out by officials in New Delhi after that meeting suggest that America's fears had been allayed and that it had withdrawn its objections.

But the mere statement is not going to lay the dust which has been raised by the opposition in India and Mrs

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## INGALL INDUSTRIES LIMITED

	1981	1980
Group turnover	£'000	£'000
	4,459	4,899
Profit before tax	380	435
Earnings per 10p share	3.46p	3.71p
Dividends per 10p share	2.50p	2.27p

\* At the present time, all companies are operating satisfactorily with the single exception of Ingall Industries Limited, whose lack of production continues to cause concern in line with many similar companies in the West Midlands. There are no clear signs at present of any improvement in demand. This company is a highly efficient and well equipped unit capable of making a substantial profit under more normal trading conditions.

\* We are constantly considering ways of expanding our traditional business and improving the profitability of the group.

### GROUP SUBSIDIARIES

Engineering Division	Taylor & Osborne — Birmingham
Ingall Engineers — Willenhall	
Furnace Division	Joseph Tomlinson & Sons — Sheffield
W. English & Son — London	Thompson's (Funeral Furnishers) —
A. Hazel & Sons — Birmingham	Liverpool & Bristol
Priestley & Cockett — Lincoln	
J. Kynaston — Newton-le-Willows	John Sankay — Leigh

The above are extracts from the statement by the Chairman Mr. H. Marston Riley. Copies of the full report can be obtained from the Secretary, 206 Bradford Street, Birmingham B12 0RH.

## Business Diary: Be thankful for small Mercians

The Midlands is no longer the home of small "backyard" businesses. It once was, the region's industrial base having been seriously eroded during this recession.

However, a group of Birmingham-based businessmen and professionals have come up with something called the Mercia Venture Capital Scheme which may help put some bounce back into their area.

The fiscal climate for the scheme, which aims to attract high tax bracket investors with ambitious small businesses, could hardly be better, the employers national insurance surcharge notwithstanding. Under the chairmanship of Jim Hearnshaw, an entrepreneurial accountant with an impressive track record in Midlands industry, his company, C&M (Capital & Management), is running the Mercia scheme to take full advantage of the Government's small business start-up scheme which allows wealthy investors to make annual tax-relieved investments of up to £10,000.

"We'll need the funds by the end of November if we're to invest them in time for the end of the tax year and if investors are to get full tax reliefs, says Hearnshaw."

### OECD's Poats

There could hardly be a less propitious moment for the imposingly named Rutherford M. Poats ("Rud" to his friends) to take over the chairmanship of the Development Assistance Committee — one of the key committees of the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). The "M", by the way, stands for "Mell", his mother's maiden name.

"Happy Retirement Mr. PRINGLE!"



"Believe me, old chap. With all the voluntary redundancy and early retirement schemes, the business is in a gold watch."

The committee seeks to coordinate the foreign aid activities of the 17 richest industrial nations. The new chairman, who succeeds an academic, John Lewis, has the job of trying to promote the cause of Third World economic development at a time of increasing "aid weariness".

Rud Poats will be the sixth chairman of the DAC since it was established in 1961. All have been Americans, as the United States foots the bill. The Americans saw the committee as a way of prodding other rich countries into helping the developing world. In 1961 America gave 57 per cent of all western aid. Last year, it was little over a quarter. But now the United States has moved from being the most generous, of nations.

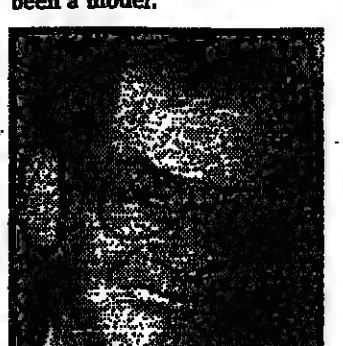
Today, it is fifth from bottom among the 17 rich western aid donors (measuring aid as a proportion of national income).

The Reagan Administration thinks that private enterprise should replace aid as the main method of promoting development. The question being asked by others on the Development Assistance Committee is to what degree the 59-year-old Rud Poats has been nominated by the Americans to espouse this cause.

### Marriage lines

Lisa Timoner (right), the wife of Eli Timoner (below), the Miami businessman who is president and chairman of Air Florida, told me yesterday that she was once offered a job by one of her husband's rivals, TWA.

"I was hired by TWA when I was a young girl as a stewardess and changed my mind just before going with them," she said. Mrs Timoner said she was then offered another job promoting Catalina swimwear which was more in her line, since before moving to Miami to escape the New York winters she had been a model.



Eli Timoner yesterday.

use of seven Boeing 727 and 737 planes at "attractive rates".

### Down the hatch?

The Hon Ralph Mansfield fears that his life style is being impugned in the interests of business. He features as the author of monthly newsletters which the City wine merchants, Hatch, Mansfield, of which he is chairman, send to a mailing list of some 20,000 special customers.

The letters, detailing the firm's special offers, are written in a gossipy style, featuring such acquaintances as a butterfly-collecting parson, a miserly farmer friend, the club wine bore, and Colonel Lepatrier, an French Foreign Legion, an old wartime colleague.

They are ghost written for him, Mansfield claims, by "our direct mail marketing guru".

Mansfield's mailbox now includes regular letters asking: "Do you really exist?"

Reader Mrs D. Phillips of Eastbourne tells me that her husband left the Army after just three weeks, complaining of "too many brusque walks".

Ross Davies

## Control Securities Limited

Latest results for the six months ended 30 September 1981

	Six Months to 30 Sept 1981	Six Months to 30 Sept 1980	Year ended 31 March 1981
	UNAUDITED	UNAUDITED	AUDITED
Gross rental income	291,283	182,343	386,402
Other income	1,329,715	670,586	2,189,924
Turnover	1,521,298	858,929	2,576,326
Trading profit before taxation	544,019	278,403	635,690
Taxation	106,140	150	129,702
Profit after taxation	437,879	278,253	505,988
Extraordinary items	1,157	—	(1693)
Minority interests	439,036	278,253	505,295
	1,057	7,665	9,837
Profit for the period	437,979	278,258	495,458
Interim dividend	197,699	115,341	307,576
Basic earnings per share	3.48p	2.57p	4.63p
Fully diluted earnings per share	3.16p	2.20p	3.80p
Interim dividend	1.575p	1.05p	2.5p

The directors believe that profits for the current six months will be in line with those for the first half of the year.

In view of the group's improving profitability, the Board has decided to increase the interim dividend from 1.05p to 1.575p net per share, payable on 22nd January 1982 to shareholders on the register on 11th December 1981.

In accordance with our previously stated policy of expanding the capital base of the Group, it is our intention to capitalise a further proportion of reserve profits by making a bonus issue of shares on the basis of one Ordinary share of 10p for every three Ordinary shares held.

The Board expects to pay a final dividend not less than the interim dividend on the capital as increased by the bonus issue.







\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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## SPORT

**Goddard : a new recruit likely to be left in reserve**

the Philadelphia Eagles, the inevitable Dallas Cowboys and the surprise package of the season, the San Francisco 49ers.

The Eagles won their first air game this year and seemed unstoppable until nearly unscathed by the Minnesota Vikings three weeks ago. The Vikings beat them at St. Louis last night, 14-17 at the hands of the Cowboys, for whom the surprise package, White has returned toounding.

White has replaced predecessor Roger Staubach in the air of last-ditch rallies, toppling the Dolphins and Eagles in successive drives through heavy rain.

His first quarter scoring in the 49ers came to national attention last month when they beat the Cowboys 45-14 at the midweeker. Since the disappointing result, neither team has won and the 49er quarterback Joe Montana (who, if you believe the odds, will lead the team to the Vince Lombardi award for the man who built a bridge to cross the bay) has come the best advertisement for the team since Susan Salm James.

White's first winning number came last night as he threw a 30-yard pass for a touchdown on MacMillan and Wife.

Whether they have enough steel















# Thatcher facing Commons clash on spy immunity

By Craig Seton

The Prime Minister, after refusing yesterday to order a new inquiry into Soviet penetration of the security services, faces anger in the Commons today over the exact number of suspected Soviet spies who may have been offered immunity from prosecution by their MI5 interrogators in return for cooperation. Was it a few or one, some MPs demanded to know.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher's plea, in a long Commons speech yesterday, that the House should concern itself with the future rather than the past, which she said had been "very thoroughly investigated", is likely to be ignored today by MPs who considered that her response left vital questions unanswered.

In particular some MPs are concerned by an apparent discrepancy between her statement on the public confession of Mr Leo Long last week that he had spied for the Russians and replies in the Commons by Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, about the number of people who may have been induced, or offered informal immunity, to confess their suspect espionage activities since 1964. That was the year that Mr Long and the now disgraced Anthony Blunt, his recruiter and controller, admitted to MI5 that they had spied for the Russians.

There was also considerable surprise when Mrs Thatcher said that records were not available before 1964. The replies of Mrs Thatcher and Sir Michael yesterday revealed that Mr Long, who passed on to Mr Blunt information

he gained while a wartime member of MI4, which dealt with German code-breaking, had asked his MI5 interrogators for immunity from prosecution (which Mr Blunt had been given), but was refused. However, he had been told he was unlikely to face prosecution.

Mrs Thatcher said the contacts of those known to have spied for Russians had been "extensively and exhaustively investigated" and that many had been interviewed over the years. She had been aware of only one case other than that of Mr Long in which someone suspected of espionage "was or may have been induced to make a confession by an indication that he was unlikely to be prosecuted if he cooperated in the security service's inquiries".

Mrs Thatcher, saying that there was nothing in recent press stories which called for a new inquiry "into the events of the past", said one of those named or implicated were still in public service and most had died or retired.

Because the security service had no other evidence against Mr Long, there was a good deal to gain and little to lose by obtaining his cooperation in the way it was done.

Mrs Thatcher was insisting that there was only one other case similar to that of Mr Long, Sir Michael referred Mr Long to his statement in 1979 that there had been a "few cases" where inducements were offered.

Parliamentary report, page 8  
A spy's story, page 10  
Leading article, page 11

## Israel takes firm line

Continued from page 1

thing that now endangers this peace is the lack of direct American support for the Saudi plan.

Earlier Mr Begin said that Israel had gone to the absolute limits in its concessions to the Arab states. He said that the country had given up all its strategic positions in the Sinai and that autonomy was the maximum that he could now offer.

Last night Mr Shimon said that Israel may be forced to reassess its attitude towards the peace process because of the West's failure to appreciate Israeli concessions.

In a speech to Jewish fund-raisers in Jerusalem which clear-

ly reflected the Cabinet's belief that Israeli concessions at Camp David have been deliberately overlooked in the West, a minister said: "Israel has done its duty and contributed more than its share towards a change for the better in the Middle East. We undertook grave risks. The uprooting of villages and townships is a very heavy price to pay, even a tragedy."

By early tonight there had been no official reaction from the Israeli Government to the Western observers' view that they could add to the problems surrounding the talks.

Brightstar troops go in; Thatcher explains EEC policy, page 6



Poussin's 'Madone à l'escalier': Blunt says the Washington version is authentic, Lee says his is.

## Museum chief defends Poussin purchase

Continued from page 1

M Hubert Landais, director of French museums, confirmed yesterday that the painting had been smuggled out of the country. "I was contacted by Mr Sherman Lee, the director of the Cleveland Museum, in July, 1980," he said. "Mr Lee asked me whether, if an export permit was applied for, the painting would be allowed out of France. My answer was that the Louvre would have to see the painting before giving an opinion."

To M Landais' amazement, the next he heard of the picture was that it was in America and had been purchased by the Cleveland.

"Either it is a major masterpiece and would never have been allowed out of France, or it is a copy. We do not know the answer, since it is in a private collection and few scholars have seen it," M Landais said.

The export of the picture was fraudulent on two counts, he alleged. All paintings that leave France must be declared to the customs and require an export licence. No export licence was applied for or issued.

Secondly, on its entry to America a "ridiculously" low

price was declared; it was then sold to Cleveland for a "very high" price. Under French currency regulations the full sale price should have been repatriated to France, which it was not.

The price paid by Cleveland has not been revealed. As an authentic work by Poussin, the value could have been more than £2m, but the disagreement among scholars may have reduced this. "We knew that it was authentic when we bought it," Mr Lee told me, but doubts over the attribution were considered in fixing the price.

Mr Lee said that he had first seen the painting in France last year. He knew that it had been exported without a licence but he had taken legal advice before making the purchase. He suggests that the export was legal since the painting had been in France for only 70 years; it was bought by a French dealer from the Ashmolean collection in England in 1907.

M Landais said: "I know what Mr Lee is saying and he is wrong". It is arguable that the French law denies museum authorities the right to stop the export of a work recently imported into France. "Even if

this were the case," says M Landais, "an export permit had to be issued and the picture had to be submitted to us for authorisation."

The argument that the painting is authentic is reinforced by Cleveland's purchase; Mr Lee is renowned for having a good eye.

Professor Anthony Blunt has published the Washington picture as the authentic version with a passing reference to the possibility that the other was an autograph variant. Thuyllier published the Cleveland picture as genuine, dismissing Washington's as an "old copy". The fight between Washington and Cleveland is clearly about to start.

Mlle Berin-Mourat is the niece of a former curator of the Louvre, M Paul Jamot, and the Jamot family have never had any doubts about the authenticity of the picture. M Jamot made a scholarly study of Poussin and another painting from his collection, The Triumph of Pae now belongs to the Louvre.

This has also had an unhappy history because of the discovery of a better version at Sudeley Castle, Gloucestershire. The Sudeley painting is on show

in the National Gallery of Scotland's major Poussin exhibition. It was cleaned for the occasion and any remaining doubts have been removed by the stunning condition of the painting beneath the dirt. The Jamot version has been moved from the main galleries of the Louvre and hangs in the administration block.

For the Louvre to make a public objection to the export of a painting will cause a special stir in France. Since M Francois Mitterrand took over as President of France, art collectors have been living under the threat of a wealth tax. Rather than declare the ownership of paintings and pay an annual tax on their value, collectors have chosen export and there is believed to have been a flood of illegal exports.

Dealers, collectors, auctioneers and the museums have argued that art should be exempted from wealth tax and ten days ago this principle was enshrined in law.

M Landais emphasises that Cleveland's purchase is not being criticized on political grounds. It is a matter of ethics that no major museum should break the heritage laws of another country in this manner, he says.

## Frank Johnson in the Commons

### The baiting of Dracula by the Wilderness MP

Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary for Employment, rose in the Commons yesterday to say that the House should not be troubled by the "graveyard" of the past.

Mr Tebbit must by now be regretting that remark about the "graveyard" of the past. The Minister's back-pedalling away at his opponents for 35 minutes. Later, Mr Callaghan, the former Prime Minister, speaking from the back benches, referred to Mr Tebbit as "the most unimpressive man in the House". Mr Tebbit was visibly moved. Let us hope he proves worthy of such a sacred trust.

"I turn to the matter that is troubling the Committee of the day," Mr Tebbit began. "Myself, he should have added. Throughout the rest of the debate, the speaker returned to him personally."

Mr Eric Varley, the Shadow Secretary for Employment, referred to Mr Tebbit as a "street corner" and a "bore". Mr Varley, whose symbol of office was the knuckle duster. During a passage in which he was trying to be less personal, he said: "Mr Tebbit, to Dracula, Mr Varley, is seated on a certain facial resemblance."

How did this boy Tebbit from an ordinary London working class home turn out to be the only Cabinet Minister regarded by his opponents as evil? Just lucky, no suppose.

Yesterday much of his speech was taken up with the usual inoffensive statistics comparing our unemployment with that of Germany, France and elsewhere.

But that was not what the punters on the Labour side had come to hear from him. Soon, he was referring to "the old Labour Party", adding with a glance at Mr John Gummer, "Or perhaps by the look of them, the Labour Party."

Then, in a passage especially paraded for Crosby, he asked what SDP policy was on trade union law reform, reminding about Mr Shirley Williams' name and the "Crosby" picket line, and added: "Would the change in the new law be intended to introduce, so that she could get back on that picket line?"

Spirits rose on the Labour benches. The speaker, the Tories, losing their Right. Mr Tebbit, Mr Speaker, nerve and, therefore, making a series of errors?" he asked. Year, year, Year.

denounce as hard-hearted. Mr Tebbit is a raft in a sea of weeds.

The Tories were subdued throughout the speech. A few exultant mutters of "year, year, year" under their breath: "year, year, year."

Later Sir Ian Gilmour, dismissed from the Cabinet at the same time as Mr Tebbit's accession to it, rose to make his first Commons speech for the new constituency, The Wilderness. He wanted to know when the recovery would come. Perhaps the Treasury knew. "But judging by the interesting speech of the Secretary of State the other night, they have not told him."

The irony of the "interesting" was not lost on Mr Tebbit. From the direction of the Government front bench there was a creaking as if a wolf were being opened. Mr Tebbit brought his legs to the ground. Dracula was rising.

Cautiously, Sir Ian stood back and allowed the dark-skinned, pale, cadaverous figure to put a question. "I assume that the Right Hon gentleman, like me, is a very practical man and has a great deal of experience of what goes on in the economy."

That was Mr Tebbit's way of saying that Sir Ian, unlike the former airline pilot Tebbit, was a dreamy baronet who could not screw on a light-bulb. The mild Sir Ian added to know how Britain after the refutation advocated by Sir Ian, could sell such goods as cars when other countries made them cheaper.

Sir Ian replied that if Mr Tebbit thought three million unemployed was the right way to run the economy, he could not agree.

Sir Ian resumed by telling us about some statistics which he had arranged to be given to something called "the Treasury model". One was not sure of the identity of this Treasury model, but she sounded a reckless and expensive wild story had led Sir Ian into trouble.

Sir Ian promised more jobs, but one was unable to say how much they would cost. As a new speech, Sir Ian was upstaged by that of Mr John Gummer, Tory member for Aldershot who, in the course of denouncing virtually the entire Government policy and the rhetoric with which it is presented, mocked the Prime Minister, the Treasury team and of course Mr Tebbit.

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Today's events

The Queen holds investiture, Buckingham Palace, 11.  
The Prince of Wales receives honorary fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians, 11, St Andrews Place, NW1, 7.45.  
Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother has lunch with Court of Worshipful Company of Butchers, Butchers Hall, 12.45.  
The Duchess of Gloucester, patron, British Library of Tape Recordings for Hospital Patients, attends annual general meeting, Drexler's Hall, 5.30.

The Duchess of Kent, patron of National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies, attends Patricia Fay memorial lecture, Victoria and Albert Museum, 6.45.  
Princess Alexandra attends luncheon given by senior officers of 'V' District, Metropolitan Police, Imber Court, East Molesley, Surrey, 12.45; attends performance to celebrate seventieth anniversary of Central School of Drama, Embassy Theatre, 8.30.

Talks, lectures  
Dr R. C. Whiting on "Suez and the British Economy 1918-1960", Rupert Beckett Lecture Theatre, The Arts Building, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds, 5.30.  
Talk: The Rev Bernard Thorogood, general secretary, United Reformed Church, Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, Shaftesbury Avenue, 1.15.  
Future of the Spa, by Denis Searns, Concert Room, Pump Room, Bath, 1.10.  
Russian Refugees Aid Society: Talk by Sir Charles Johnston on "A Love-Rite with Russian Literature", Chelsea Old Town Hall, 6.30.

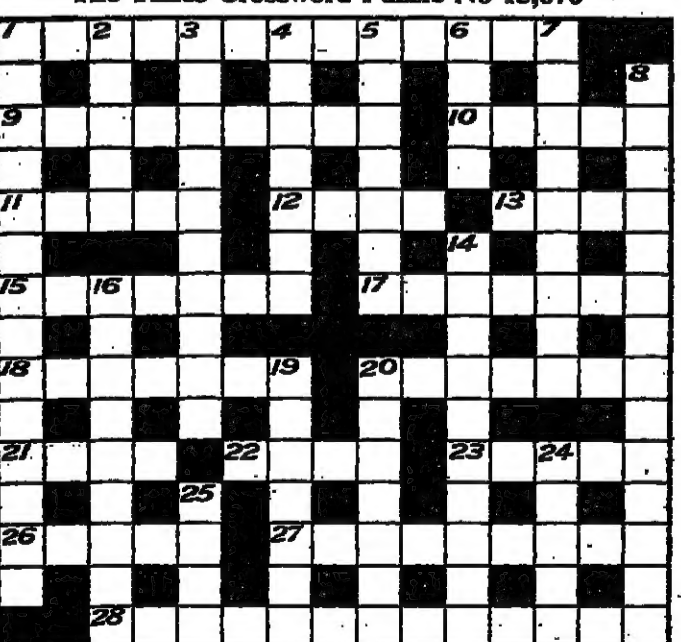
Lee, Derek Wynant, John Sergeant, Gillian Whittle, the Upstairs Gallery, Business Art Galleries, Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, 10.6.  
New exhibition of oil paintings by French artist Pascale Marth, Holborn Gallery, 30 Tavistock Street, 10.6.  
British Museum: "Medieval Limoges enamel by Geoffrey Thuyllier published the Cleveland picture as genuine, dismissing Washington's as an "old copy". The fight between Washington and Cleveland is clearly about to start.

The papers  
The Sun comments today on Mr Michael Foot's first year as Labour leader. It says that there is just one service he can render his party and country: he should gather together what scraps of dignity and reputation remain to him and stand down. He is too old, too feeble, too out of touch with the world's worst-dressed man in the heart, not the cloth. Mr Foot's conduct to several custom next time it should be to deny small-minded men the opportunity of collecting on a solemn occasion.

Weather  
General situation: High near S Britain will move slowly away as troughs move S over most areas.  
Forecasts from 6 am to midnight  
London, East Angles, Midlands, S Wales: Sunny, with some light rain in the evening. High 12, low 8.  
S.W. England: Partly fog and rain in the evening. High 12, low 8.  
S.W. Wales: Partly fog and rain in the evening. High 12, low 8.  
S.W. Wales: Partly fog and rain in the evening. High 12, low 8.



### The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,676



Church music  
Bangor Cathedral: Today, Elizabeth Grove (organ), 12.30.  
St George's Church, Westminster: Sunday, Tallis Chamber Orchestra, 3.30.  
St Andrew's, Uxbridge: Tomorrow, Kenneth Eaves (organ), 8.00.  
St Edmund's Church, Hampton: Sunday, Tallis Chamber Orchestra, 3.30.  
St Peter's Church, Westgate: Sunday, Tallis Chamber Orchestra, 3.30.  
St George's Church, Tottenham: Sunday, Tallis Chamber Orchestra, 3.30.  
St George's Church, Tottenham: Sunday, Tallis Chamber Orchestra, 3.30.  
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Exhibitions  
Pauline Vincent, paintings and drawings, 670 Cranborne Road, Parsonage Green, SW6, 10.6.  
Greece, Turkey and the Levant: Watercolours and drawings, Stella Falwell Gallery, 2 Cecil Court, 10.30-6.  
Chisel, Wheel and Brush: Masterpieces of Japanese art over 12 centuries, Blunt and Sons, 48 Davies Street, 10.30-5.30.  
Loot: V.I.L. Goldsmith Hall, Foster Lane, 10.30-5.  
Albert Goodwin, RWS 1846-1932, Royal Museum, Canterbury, 10.4.

The Pound  
Bank buys Bank sells  
Australia \$ 1.69 1.62  
Belgium Fr 20.75 20.75  
Canada \$ 2.23 2.24  
Denmark Kr 13.90 13.20  
France Fr 6.55 6.55  
Germany DM 4.33 4.09  
Hong Kong \$ 11.05 10.45  
Iceland Fl 12.22 11.17  
Japan Yen 220.00 218.00  
Netherlands Gld 4.75 4.53  
Norway Kr 11.50 10.50  
Portugal Esc 200.48 182.50  
South Africa Rd 1.50 1.64  
Spain Ptas 164.00 176.00  
Sweden Kr 10.74 10.20  
Switzerland Fr 3.51 3.29  
USA \$ 1.95 1.88

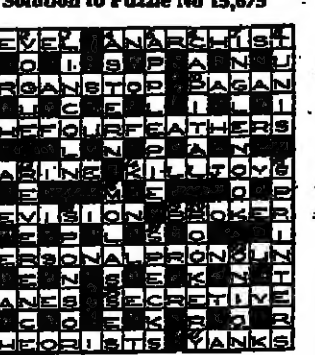
Lighting up time  
London  
Sun rises 6.49 am to 6.42 am.  
Sun sets 4.59 pm to 4.52 pm.  
Moon rises 11.50 pm to 11.42 pm.  
Moon sets 5.15 pm to 5.07 pm.

High tides			
Location	AM	PM	HW
London Bridge	5.36	12.15	6.9
Canterbury	5.23	12.17	5.47
Bournemouth	5.38	12.14	4.17
Cardiff	5.27	12.18	5.9
Falmouth	5.38	12.14	4.1
Harwich	10.07	10.44	4.1
London	4.17	12.15	6.9
Lough	12.25	1.12	5.5
Malpas	4.27	12.17	5.7
Millport	4.23	12.19	6.1
Newquay	3.27	12.14	7.1
Penryn	4.27	12.17	5.7
Portsmouth	5.21	12.19	6.2
Scarborough	4.27	12.17	5.7
Sheerness	4.27	12.17	5.7
Swansea	4.26	12.17	5.7

- ACROSS
- Some anti-Government types put notice in showcase (6,7)
  - Term misused about Ibsen's work as artist (9)
  - Faith in firm in which Eric's name appears (5)
  - West Side Club Golf (5)
  - Another pound is required in Italy by Roman law (4)
  - Case for inclusion of adequate tuition (4)
  - Agitated by death interfering with last month's return (7)
  - Food treated rough in hold of yacht, first and last (7)
  - Notices about test scores (7)
  - China to yield to the French (7)
  - Letter's due (4)
  - "His flashing eyes, his floating hair" (Coleridge) (4)
  - Sensation in Macedonia! (5)
  - Where Italians say there's capital for scent-production (5)
  - Making without worker-participation, an important statement (9)
  - Tradescant for Ekaterinburg tragedy? (6,7)

- DOWN
- Fruit Nora cut up for the house (10,4)
  - Turkish sultan had me tortured (5)
  - Maughan's play too good for us (7)
  - Peel thus described as frank in speech (7)
  - Hence our current production of eggs (7)
  - Indent for a cooler (4)
  - Actor initiates a sort of call for branch support (4,5)
  - Maybe the setter cribbed? (4)
  - Moulding pattern for type of shell, also missile (3,4)
  - Leaving the stage, successful (6,3)
  - Examine the boy's back—it's an outrage! (7)
  - Pipe or French horn with which Sargent sounded note (4,3)
  - Imitative of ones help by Herbert (5)
  - Consolation for Melissa (4)

Solution to Puzzle No 15,675



Parliament today  
Commons (2.30): Continuation of debate on Queen's Speech. Main topic will be financial arrangements of National Coal Board and privatisation of British National Oil Corporation and the Gas Corporation. Lords (2.30): Continuation of debate on Queen's Speech. Main topic will be foreign affairs and defence.

Sporting fixtures  
Football: League Cup, third round (See page 19).  
Rugby: Two 1st meetings: Hereford (1.30) and Bangor-on-Dee (1.15).  
Tennis: Benson and Hedges championship, Wembley Arena, London.

Today's anniversaries  
Martin Luther was born in Eisleben, 1483; Francis Couperin in Paris, 1668; William Hazlitt in London, 1797; Oliver Goldsmith in Pallis, co Longford, 1728 (1730 ?).

Around Britain			
Location	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Scarborough	10-12	4-5	Cloudy
Cardiff	10-12	4-5	Cloudy
Bournemouth	10-12	4-5	Cloudy
Canterbury	10-12	4-5	Cloudy
Falmouth	10-12	4-5	Cloudy
Harwich	10-12	4-5	Cloudy
London	10-12	4-5	Cloudy
Lough	10-12	4-5	Cloudy
Malpas	10-12	4-5	Cloudy
Millport	10-12	4-5	Cloudy
Newquay	10-12	4-5	Cloudy
Penryn	10-12	4-5	Cloudy
Portsmouth	10-12	4-5	Cloudy
Scarborough	10-12	4-5	Cloudy
Sheerness	10-12	4-5	Cloudy
Swansea	10-12	4-5	Cloudy

Abroad			
Location	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Algeria	11-12	4-5	Cloudy
Athens	11-12	4-5	Cloudy
Bombay	11-12	4-5	Cloudy
Calcutta	11-12	4-5	Cloudy
Cairo	11-12	4-5	Cloudy
Colon	11-12	4-5	Cloudy
Hong Kong	11-12	4-5	Cloudy
London	11-12	4-5	Cloudy
Lyons	11-12	4-5	Cloudy
Madrid	11-12	4-5	Cloudy
Moscow	11-12	4-5	Cloudy
New York	11-12	4-5	Cloudy
Paris	11-12	4-5	Cloudy
Rome	11-12	4-5	Cloudy
San Francisco	11-12	4-5	Cloudy
Shanghai	11-12	4-5	Cloudy
Singapore	11-12	4-5	Cloudy
Tokyo	11-12	4-5	Cloudy
Yokohama	11-12	4-5	Cloudy



# Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1	BBC 2	ITV/LONDON	Radio 4	Radio 3	Radio 2	Radio 1	WORLD SERVICE
<p>9.05 For Schools. Colleges. Friction 9.38 Science: Stability 10.00 You and Me. For the under fives presented by Susan Calland (not School) (10.15 Maths: Number Relationships 10.38 Statistics 11.00 Words and Pictures 11.17 Read On! 11.40 Opportunities for All? 12.45 French conversation 12.50 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart 12.57 Regional News 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Donny MacLeod is the star chef and he prepares Steak on a Platter 1.45 Fingerbobs. A See-Saw programme with Rick Jones 2.01 For Schools. Colleges: The Body Feet 2.18 Modern History 2.40 Merry-go-round 3.00 Close-down 3.15 Songs of Praise from St Michael's Church, Lillingthorpe, introduced by Geoffrey Wheeler (3.35 Regional news)</p> <p>3.55 Play School. For the under fives (shown earlier on BBC 2)</p> <p>4.20 Laurel and Hardy Cartoon. Camera Bugged</p> <p>4.25 Jackanory. Tom Conti reads another story from The Practical Princess and Other Librarian's Fairy Tales</p> <p>4.40 The Record Breakers presented by Roy Castle and Norris McWhirter</p> <p>5.05 Newsround with Paul McDowell</p> <p>5.10 God's Wonderful Railway. Part three of the serial about the making of the Great Western Railway</p> <p>5.40 News with Richard Baker 6.00 Regional news magazines 6.25 National</p> <p>6.55 Film: The Enemy Below (1957) starring Robert Mitchum and Curt Jurgens. Tense wartime drama about an American destroyer tracking a German U-boat in the South Atlantic with each Captain trying to out-think the other</p> <p>8.30 Love Story. Wilfred and Eileen starring Judy Bowker and Christopher Guard. It is 1914 and the secretly newly-weds decide to tell their disapproving parents of the marriage. Episode one of four</p> <p>9.00 Party Political Broadcast on behalf of the Conservatives</p> <p>9.05 News with John Humphrys</p> <p>9.30 All Those Hard Luck Stories. The last in the series of four cases from the files of the social services department in Nottinghamshire is entitled A Danger to Themselves and deals with a Welsh drunkard, an attempted suicide, and an aged woman who does not want to be parted from her husband</p> <p>10.00 Sportnight introduced by Harry Carpenter. Highlights of one of tonight's third round matches in the Football League Cup with commentary by Barry Davies</p> <p>10.50 Parkinson chats to John Rimmer, Joanna Lumley and Lord Cameron</p> <p>11.50 News headlines and weather</p>	<p>10.20 Gherbar. A magazine programme with advice for Asian women. 10.45 Close-down. 11.00 Play School. For the under fives presented by Sheelagh Gilbey and Don Spencer. Today's story is Do You Want To Be My Friend? by Eric Carle. 11.25 Close-down. 3.55 One Man and His Dog. Heat two in the BBC's Sheepdog Championship sees three shepherds from England competing for a place in the final. Introduced by Phil Drabble with Eric Halsall (3).</p> <p>4.35 Christopher Hogwood plays Mozart's Fantasia in D Minor (3).</p> <p>4.40 Vikings in part two of the story of the warrior race Magnus Magnusson investigates their lasting skills.</p> <p>5.10 The Great Lines. Robert Wall continues his history of the pre-war giants of the Atlantic.</p> <p>5.40 The Five Faces of Dr Who? Episode three of The Krotons (3).</p> <p>6.00 Grange Hill. The school dance is in jeopardy if the vandals are not caught (3).</p> <p>6.30 Life on Earth. Episode two: Building Blocks (3).</p> <p>7.25 News with sub-titles.</p> <p>7.30 Villagers. A look at some villages in India (3).</p> <p>7.50 Collecting News. Among the items is a look at the boats of Exeter Maritime Museum.</p> <p>8.20 Strangers. Tonight some convicted talk about prison life and their attitude to crime (3).</p> <p>9.00 M*A*S*H. Korean war comedy about the staff of an American field hospital. Tonight Klingor, out of the kindness of his heart, gives financial aid to a young Korean girl but his motives are misunderstood.</p> <p>9.25 The Borgias. The King of France presents Cesare with a wife and a Dukedom in exchange for a promise of Naples. Lucrezia's new husband, Alfonso, knows of this secret treaty and fears for his life.</p> <p>10.20 Out of Court. How victims of North Sea oil industry accidents are being coaxed into suing in the States. With Nick Ross and Jane Wainman.</p> <p>10.50 Party Political Broadcast on behalf of the Conservative Party.</p> <p>10.55 Newsnight. The latest news from home and abroad including an extended look at one of the main stories. Ends at 11.45.</p>	<p>9.30 For Schools: For the hard-of-hearing: Eating. 9.47 Picture Box. 10.04 Refuge. 10.18 A visit to Angers in the Loire Valley. 10.38 Fiction in Germany during the Thirties. 11.02 Working in the future. 11.20 Packing and cracking. 11.39 How We Used to Live 1936-1953. 12.00 The Munch Bunch. Animated vegetables for the very young. 12.30 Turning Point. Colin Morris talks to a lady about her new-found confidence. 1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News. 1.30 The Circus Complex. The final episode and Oliver Milton is going mad working on the tapes of the last words of Tom Foreman (3). 2.00 After Noon Plus. David Lewis, author of You Can Teach Your Child Intelligence, talks to Mary Parkinson. 2.45 Charlie's Angels. The three heroes are the targets of an unknown killer (3). 3.45 Emeraldale Farm (3).</p> <p>4.15 Cartoon: Kiddy in the Kity.</p> <p>4.20 Country Camera. The fifth in a series of seven programmes featuring 18-year-old wildlife cameraman Simon King. This week we see a nesting kingfisher and the eating habits of loads. There are also uncommon shots of buzzards nesting and a kestrel in flight.</p> <p>4.45 Fanfare For Young Musicians presented by harpichordist Melvyn Tan. Five groups of young musicians compete for the limelight.</p> <p>5.15 The Brady Bunch. A rival school's footballer shows an interest in Marlo.</p> <p>5.45 News.</p> <p>6.00 Thames News.</p> <p>6.20 Help! Viv Taylor Gee and Museums for disabled visitors.</p> <p>6.30 Crossroads. Jill Harvey faces a serious situation.</p> <p>7.00 This is Your Life. Eamonn Andrews plus red book surprises another celebrity.</p> <p>7.30 Coronation Street. The verdict in the Tilley</p> <p>8.00 Starburst. Fast moving variety show which this week includes Charlie Drake, Anna Dawson and tenor, Joey Loran.</p> <p>9.00 Diamonds. Drama series based on a family firm of Hatton Garden gem merchants. A less successful gem dealer is suspected of robbery with violence when Tom Fabrics is discovered badly hurt and with a valuable diamond missing.</p> <p>10.00 Party Political Broadcast on behalf of the Conservative Party.</p> <p>10.05 News.</p> <p>10.35 Film: Shampoo (1975) starring Warren Beatty, Julie Christie and Goldie Hawn. Beatty plays an amoral hairdresser whose sexual appetite is satisfied by the frustrated wives of businessmen. Fed up with working for himself he decides to open his own salon but has difficulty in raising the money. However he thinks of another way of overcoming the obstacle.</p> <p>12.35 Close with Anne Scott-Jones reading a favourite piece of literature.</p>	<p>6.00 News Briefing.</p> <p>6.10 Farming Today.</p> <p>6.20 Today.</p> <p>6.30 News in Parliament.</p> <p>6.55 Midweek Noel Edwards.</p> <p>10.00 Express's Question Time visits the Randwick Gardening Club, Gloucestershire.</p> <p>10.30 Daily Service.</p> <p>10.45 Morning Story: "Aznas for Sale" by Angela Hunt.</p> <p>11.00 News.</p> <p>11.05 Baker's Dozen. Richard Baker requests anon. Hook, Michael Haydn, Bach.</p> <p>12.00 News.</p> <p>12.05 You and Yours.</p> <p>12.27 Transatlantic Cable. Six continents between London and New York (Round 3).</p> <p>12.35 The World at One.</p> <p>1.35 Party Political Broadcast by the Conservative Party.</p> <p>1.40 The Archers.</p> <p>2.00 News.</p> <p>2.05 Woman's Hour.</p> <p>3.00 News.</p> <p>3.05 "Deadline" by William Swire.</p> <p>3.30 Around Thoughts from Home. Relevance of the beyond our shores.</p> <p>4.00 President's Progress. + Gerald Friedland offers a plain man's guide to the Christmas Faith (3).</p> <p>4.45 "Three Ways of Being Good" Story Tunes "The Strawberries" by Angela Thirkield (3).</p> <p>5.00 P.M.</p> <p>5.55 Weather.</p> <p>6.00 News.</p> <p>6.30 The Senior Partner (series). Andrew Gutchshank in "Our After Campaign".</p> <p>7.00 News.</p> <p>7.05 The Archers.</p> <p>7.20 Checkpoint. A weekly investigation into accusations of fraud and injustice.</p> <p>7.45 The Roth Lectures 1981 (new series). Six talks by Professor Laurence Martin, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, on subjects in the modern world. 1. If You Know of a Better One.</p> <p>8.15 A Book of War. A look at the experience of women in World War I.</p> <p>8.45 Analysis. Denis Healey in conversation with Mary Golding.</p> <p>9.30 Soliloquy.</p> <p>9.50 Weather.</p> <p>10.00 The World Tonight.</p> <p>10.30 Lord Peter Wimsey. "Have his Cakes" by Dorothy L. Sayers (3).</p>	<p>6.55 Weather.</p> <p>7.00 News.</p> <p>7.05 Your Midweek Choice. Record requests: anon. Hook, Michael Haydn, Bach.</p> <p>8.00 News.</p> <p>8.05 Midweek Choice (continued) Jiffy Fick, Puccini, Scherzetta.</p> <p>9.00 News.</p> <p>9.05 Week's Composer: Strauss; records, including mono.</p> <p>10.00 Music for Organ: Racial on the organ of St. Mary's Church, Southampton. Marcel Dupré: "Invocations".</p> <p>10.45 Maurice Bourgue (Oboe and Cor anglais) with Colette King (Violoncello). Racial on the organ of St. Mary's Church, Southampton. Marcel Dupré: "Invocations".</p> <p>11.25 The Hidden Boy. A short story by the Sarbanian writer Gracia Deleida.</p> <p>11.00 News.</p> <p>11.05 Snogger on record.</p>	<p>5.00 Ray Moore: 7.30 Terry Wogan: 10.00 Suzanne Simons: 12.00 John Peel: 2.00pm Ed Stewart with Northern Ireland. 4.00 David Hamilton: 5.45 News. 6.00 David Symonds: 8.00 Alan Dell: 8.30 The Mitchell Mandrels: 9.00 The Boston Pops: 10.00 Annual Alphabet: 10.30 Hubert Gregg: 11.00 Brian Matthew: from midnight, 11.00pm "Truckers" Hour: 12.00-1.00 You and the Night and the Music.</p>	<p>5.00am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Dave Lee Travis. 2.00pm Paul Burnett. 3.30pm Steve Wright. 5.00 Peter Powell. 7.00 Radio 1 Midweek: Photo-on in 01-580 4411. 8.00 David Jensen. 10.00 John Peel. 12.00 Glastonbury. 4.00 World VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00am with Radio 2. 10.00pm with Radio 1. 12.00-5.00am with Radio 2.</p>	<p>BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave 640 kHz (4250) at the following times GMT - 6.00. Newsday. 7.00 World News. 7.50 Twenty-four Hour News Summary. 7.50-8.00pm. 1.00pm. 1.00-1.15pm. 1.15-1.30pm. 1.30-1.45pm. 1.45-1.55pm. 1.55-2.00pm. 2.00-2.15pm. 2.15-2.30pm. 2.30-2.45pm. 2.45-2.55pm. 2.55-3.00pm. 3.00-3.15pm. 3.15-3.30pm. 3.30-3.45pm. 3.45-3.55pm. 3.55-4.00pm. 4.00-4.15pm. 4.15-4.30pm. 4.30-4.45pm. 4.45-4.55pm. 4.55-5.00pm. 5.00-5.15pm. 5.15-5.30pm. 5.30-5.45pm. 5.45-5.55pm. 5.55-6.00pm. 6.00-6.15pm. 6.15-6.30pm. 6.30-6.45pm. 6.45-6.55pm. 6.55-7.00pm. 7.00-7.15pm. 7.15-7.30pm. 7.30-7.45pm. 7.45-7.55pm. 7.55-8.00pm. 8.00-8.15pm. 8.15-8.30pm. 8.30-8.45pm. 8.45-8.55pm. 8.55-9.00pm. 9.00-9.15pm. 9.15-9.30pm. 9.30-9.45pm. 9.45-9.55pm. 9.55-10.00pm. 10.00-10.15pm. 10.15-10.30pm. 10.30-10.45pm. 10.45-10.55pm. 10.55-11.00pm. 11.00-11.15pm. 11.15-11.30pm. 11.30-11.45pm. 11.45-11.55pm. 11.55-12.00pm. 12.00-12.15pm. 12.15-12.30pm. 12.30-12.45pm. 12.45-12.55pm. 12.55-1.00pm. 1.00-1.15pm. 1.15-1.30pm. 1.30-1.45pm. 1.45-1.55pm. 1.55-2.00pm. 2.00-2.15pm. 2.15-2.30pm. 2.30-2.45pm. 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